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COUNTY BOROUGH OF OLDHAM



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

1959

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**MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH**

1959

Public Health Department,

Town Hall,

Oldham.

December, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of Oldham and the work of the Health Department for the year 1959.

This report is much delayed and so late in appearance that much of its value and interest is lost. As it is compiled and written in the year 1960, it is events in that year that have delayed publication. Once again staff problems and difficulties are to blame and these have seriously affected the efficiency of the Department.

The services provided under the National Health Service Act continue to be fully utilised. The new child welfare centres, which have been set up in adapted premises, are proving very popular with the mothers and attendances are increasing. It is to be regretted that there is no improvement in the staffing of the School Dental Service, so only a minimal service is available to expectant and nursing mothers and the pre-school child. The Midwives' Service has again had a full and busy year. There has been a decrease in the number of patients under the Home Nursing Service and a substantial fall in the number of visits made by the district nurses. The introduction of oral penicillin has resulted in fewer injections being given. The Ambulance Service continues to expand, more cases were moved and an increased mileage covered. The Domestic Help Service still continues to expand, the majority of cases being in the old age and sickness group.

In May, after fierce public and political pressure, the Manchester Regional Hospital Board agreed that Mr. A. H. Barber should be found employment as a Consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist and he was later appointed to the Oldham Hospital Group and in August resumed his duties at the Oldham and District General Hospital. The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee had always had full confidence in Mr. Barber and made repeated approaches to the Ministry of Health with a view to his undertaking hospital duties. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, at their June meeting, expressed their thanks and congratulations to all those concerned in the reinstatement of Mr. Barber and placed on record its sincere appreciation of the endeavours made by the Chairman, Alderman Marron. As Mr. Barber now has obstetric beds at his disposal, there is the closest co-ordination of our maternity services.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis has been vigorously pursued and met with reasonable success. Most parents are alive to the danger of poliomyelitis and willingly have their children protected. Juveniles who have left school and young adults, are not so enthusiastic and many are not sufficiently concerned to attend for the third injection when invited to do so. Unfortunately, our local freedom from cases of poliomyelitis encourages this indolent and thoughtless attitude. Diphtheria immunisation has been continued but again I regret to report that the number of children receiving reinforcing injections is dangerously low. This problem has not been overlooked but cannot be tackled with vigour when "polio" protection has to receive priority.

Your Mental Health Service has continued its steady development and we have fully anticipated the new Mental Health Act. The comprehensive and co-ordinated service that has been built up and especially the pioneer work that is being undertaken at the Arthurs and Alice Kenyon Centres, has attracted wide attention and praise. Many distinguished visitors have made a special pilgrimage to Oldham to see and study the services that have been provided. The Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust has been so impressed with these achievements that a grant of £11,000 has been received from the Trust towards the building of a hostel for the mentally handicapped. Work on this new project commenced during the year. The Trust also made a grant of £6,600 over a period of three years for a research project into mental health problems in the County Borough area. This study is under the direction of the Consultant Psychiatrist, Dr. Arthur Pool,

The birth rate of 16.52 per thousand of the population compares with 16.5 for England and Wales and shows a substantial rise compared with 15.13 for the previous year. This is one of the highest rates that has been recorded in recent years.

The death rate of 14.37 is identical with the rate for the previous year and compares with 11.6 for England and Wales. The total deaths numbered 1,694 and of these, 1,150 or 67.93 per cent, occurred in persons aged 65 years and over. Again one must comment on the comparatively few deaths that occurred in the younger age groups. It is in the age group 45-55 years that deaths begin to rise, and in this group, deaths from cancer and coronary disease assume important and depressing proportions. One must comment on the negligible number of deaths that occurred from infectious and communicative diseases.

The infant mortality rate of 23.12 per thousand live births compares with 27.37 for the previous year and 22.2 for England and Wales. This is the lowest rate ever recorded and is a tribute to the Pædiatric Service that serves the Borough and to the services provided by the Health Committee. The total infant deaths numbered 45; of these, 29 occurred under the age of one week and 20 of the latter within 24 hours of birth. Many of these young infants only showed the minimum signs of life and died within a few hours of birth. As regards weight, 8 weighed under 2 pounds, and of these, one infant weighed less than 1 pound. It is to be regretted that 6 children died of broncho-pneumonia, 4 of them being over 3 weeks old.

The still birth rate also showed a reduction, being 24.56 per thousand total births, which compares with 23.99 for the previous year and 21.0 for England and Wales, and compares favourably with the rates for other Lancashire towns.

There was one true maternal death and the maternal mortality rate of 0.50 per thousand live and still births compares with 1.64 for the previous year and a rate of .38 for England and Wales. This one death is described in the Report, and though classified as due to pregnancy or child birth, was not associated with any obstetric cause. There were 3 maternal deaths due to associated causes and these are also detailed in the Report.

There were 15 deaths due to tuberculosis (all forms) and the death rate of 0.13 compares with 0.10 for the previous year and 0.08 for England and Wales. Two deaths were registered as due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis, a girl aged 12 years and a male aged 72 years. It is again to be regretted that 4, or 30.77 per cent of the deaths escaped statutory notification, 3 being notified posthumously and 1 coming to notice through the Registrar's returns.

Details of the infectious diseases are given in the body of the Report. Measles was rampant during the early months of the year, this was a continuation of the epidemic of the previous year. Dysentery was of low incidence, 159 cases being notified compared with 1,448 in the previous year. There were 2 cases of paratyphoid fever B notified, 1 being a Chadderton resident. Scattered cases also occurred in the adjacent districts but the source of origin was not ascertained. Whooping Cough again accounted for a substantial number of cases, 75, and the majority of these had received no protective injections against the disease. These cases should not occur and the parents must be held responsible for the failure to have their children protected. Poliomyelitis only accounted for 2 cases, both being paralytic.

Once again there was no major outbreak of food poisoning and only 17 cases were notified.

Deaths from cancer showed a slight fall, being 270 compared with 283 for the previous year. Deaths from lung cancer totalled 42 (39 males, 3 females), which compares with 57 (49 males and 8 females) for the previous year. Cancer education has again been continued through the Manchester Committee on Cancer.

Again I have to report that negligible progress has been made with slum clearance. Only 168 houses have been represented during the year, and of these 37 were dealt with as individual unfit houses and 131 were included in clearance areas. In addition, 7 properties scheduled for slum clearance were demolished by voluntary action. These figures are pitiful but the officers of the Department could deal with many more houses provided there was a possibility of rehousing the displaced tenants. The slum clearance programme is, however, well ahead of the rehousing programme and at the end of the year 349 families were awaiting rehousing from properties where the slum clearance procedure had been completed apart from demolition. In June, the Minister of Housing and Local Government, Mr. Henry Brooke, visited Oldham and saw first hand a number of our slum properties. In the course of the visit, he stated "I regard Oldham as having the heaviest slum clearance task in the whole of Lancashire, apart from Liverpool and Manchester. The magnitude of the problem makes it all the more urgent that more houses should be demolished in the course of twelve months."

In 1956, the Clean Air Act received Royal Assent. Considerable work has been done with regard to the elimination and reduction of atmospheric pollution from industrial premises and the setting up of gauges for the estimation of atmospheric pollution. During the year, volumetric apparatus was installed in four secondary modern schools and the co-operation of the Director of Education and the staff and scholars of these schools is much appreciated. Early in the year, preliminary steps were taken with regard to the establishment of Smoke Control Areas and in June, draft proposals covering the five year period 1959-64 were submitted informally to the Minister of Housing and Local Government indicating the intention to establish Smoke Control Areas involving 9,676 premises and a total area of 2,540 acres. It is anticipated that in the next year (1960) at least two Smoke Control Areas will be formally approved by the Council.

It is with very deep regret that I have to record that during the year we lost, by death, three members of the staff. Mrs. Ivy Hartley, who had been a Health Visitor and School Nurse since June, 1955, and had previously served as a Municipal Midwife, died suddenly. Mr. H. Shaw, a Senior Public Health Inspector, who had given many years of service to the Committee, died after a long illness. Mr. T. W. Lovett, our part-time Public Analyst, also died. He succeeded Mr. Melling in April, 1954, and had given loyal service since his appointment. The loss of these officers was a great shock to us all and our sympathy was extended to their relatives.

Dr. H. Bailey left in February to take up the appointment of Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer to the County Borough of Stoke-on-Trent. He served the department well and we were glad that he obtained such a senior appointment. In July, Dr. M. B. Pool left us prior to her marriage. Mr. Walter Davies, the Senior Mental Health Officer, left in June to take up a senior appointment with the Lindsey County Council. He had returned to our staff in August, 1955, as a senior officer and did much to bring our Mental Health Service up to the high standard which it has attained. He went to his new appointment with our very good wishes.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all members of my staff for their loyal service during a difficult and arduous year.

I am especially grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued help and enthusiasm and wish to extend to them my very sincere thanks.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. CHALMERS KEDDIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

(from 20th May, 1959)

Chairman:

Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.

Deputy Chairman:

Councillor F. Baxter

The Mayor:

Alderman Joseph Tennyson Hilton, J.P.

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.	Councillor J. McQuillan
Councillor J. H. Broadbent	Councillor W. Wheeler
Councillor J. Bradley	Councillor Dr. J. H. Dransfield

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.

Deputy Chairman:

Councillor F. Baxter

The Mayor	Councillor J. Bradley
Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.	Councillor J. McQuillan
Councillor J. H. Broadbent	Councillor W. Wheeler
Councillor Dr. J. H. Dransfield	

Non-Council Members:

Miss A. Wrigley

HOME NURSING SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor F. Baxter

The Mayor	Councillor J. Bradley
Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.	Councillor J. McQuillan
Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P.	Councillor W. Wheeler
Councillor J. H. Broadbent	Councillor Dr. J. H. Dransfield

Non-Council Members:

Miss C. Faulkner	Miss E. Goode
Mr. T. E. C. Crozier	

MENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.

The Mayor

Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P.

Councillor F. Baxter

Councillor J. Bradley

Councillor J. H. Broadbent

Councillor Dr. J. H. Dransfield

Councillor J. McQuillan

Councillor W. Wheeler

Non-Council Members:

Miss A. Wrigley

STAFF

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer:

John Starkie, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health and Assistant School Medical Officers:

Edna Circuit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Horace Bailey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 28-2-59)

Monica B. Pool, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H. (to 19-7-59)

Basil Gilbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Geoffrey C. Inerfield, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M. (from 23-2-59)

Howard C. Jennings, M.B., Ch.B. (from 16-3-59)

David R. Edmiston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 15-6-59)

Principal School Dental Officer:

James Fenton, L.D.S.

Dental Officers:

J. H. Woolley, L.D.S.

*A. d'A. Fearn, L.D.S.

* Part-time.

Consultants:

A. H. Barber, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.P. *Obstetrician*

R. M. Maher, B.Sc., M.D., B.S., M.R.C.P. *Physician*

D. Hilson, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.C.H., M.R.C.P. *Pædiatrician*

Arthur Pool, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P., D.P.M. *Psychiatrist*

G. S. Robertson, M.B., Ch.B. *Mental Deficiency*

W. H. Lloyd, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.P.(E) *Geriatrician*
(from 1.10.59)

J. N. Appleton, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O., F.R.C.S. *Aural Surgeon*

G. Mason-Walshaw, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.F.A., D.A. *Anæsthetist*

Chest Physician:

Henry S. Bagshaw, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Analyst:

T. W. Lovett, F.R.I.C.

G. H. Baker, F.R.I.C. (from 26-10-59)

Deputy Public Analyst:

J. G. Sherratt, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Harold V. Cass

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

John Brook

*Senior Public Health Inspectors:*Meat:

H. Shaw

J. McKenna (from 16-5-59)

Housing: D. Eckersley

Smoke: F. Reynolds (from 26-10-59)

Public Health Inspectors:

J. McKenna (to 15-5-59), A. P. Mellor, H. Mousdell (to 6-6-59),
 N. Lees, D. J. Hamer (to 26-9-59), F. Rushworth, D. Whitehead
 (to 19-7-59), N. H. Morton (from 28-5-59), E. Aspin (from 17-8-59),
 J. Ineson (from 7-9-59), A. Naylor (from 19-11-59).

Lay Administrative Officer:

T. P. McKniff

Chief Clerk:

Miss M. Royle

Ambulance Officer:

E. G. Crapper

Mental Health Officers and Duly Authorised Officers:

Walter Davies, Dip. Soc. Studies (London) (Senior) (to 7-6-59)

Paul Hudson, B.A., (Senior) (from 20-7-59).

Miss A. Kelly

Donald Cheetham

John Morton (to 15-11-59).

Mental Health Officer:

Mrs. B. Lees

Psychologist:

James Ryan, M.A.

Supervisor of Training Centre:

Mrs. L. Mellor, Dip. Nat. Ass. Mental Health

Senior Handicraft Instructor, Industrial Centres:

K. Thompson

Superintendent Health Visitor and Superintendent School Nurse:

Miss A. W. Moordaff, S.R.N., H.V.Cert.

*Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor and Deputy
Superintendent School Nurse:*

Miss C. Williamson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Health Visitors/School Nurses:

Mrs. H. Emmott (Senior), Mrs. C. Smith, Miss W. McDonnell,
Mrs. C. Reeves, Mrs. I. Hartley Mrs. M. McKenna, Mrs.
A. M. Walshe, Miss S. E. Nixon, Miss M. S. Hall, Mrs. N. Carey,
Mrs. B. Buckley (nee Ogden), Miss I. Fisher, Mrs. B. Stott (nee
Shallcross), Miss J. Hitchen (from 1-7-59), Miss M. Slater (from
1-7-59), Mrs. M. A. Sencicle (from 1-7-59), Mrs. W. Frost, (from
1-10-59).

School Nurses:

Miss T. Dolan (to 31-3-59), Mrs. H. Eglin, Mrs. S. Clayton, Mrs.
O. M. Knott, Mrs. D. Spencer (from 6-4-59).

Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:

Miss M. M. Nugent, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives:

Miss M. Hadfield, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.

Assistant Superintendent, Midwives' Home:

Miss R. E. Treanor

Municipal Midwives:

Miss B. Holland, Mrs. E. Kidder, Mrs. E. C. McMahon (to 30-9-59),
Miss A. Pearson, Mrs. A. Quinn, Mrs. M. Kirwin, Mrs. M. J.
Sweeney, Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. F. H. M. Hughes, Miss K. Alletson
(to 10-6-59), Miss D. Coupe, Mrs. D. Inman, Mrs. W. A. Sutton,
Mrs. M. Brogan, Miss E. Stott (to 31-7-59), Miss R. Kwich
(to 3-5-59), Miss M. T. Farrell, Mrs. M. Kilroy (from 1-4-59),
Miss M. Stuttard (from 1-6-59), Miss I. O. Olateru-Olagbegi (from
11-6-59 to 12-10-59), Mrs. E. Lees (part-time from 19-10-59).

Superintendent of District Nursing:

Miss E. Peak, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.

District Nurses:

Miss J. A. Baker, Miss E. Dumville, Miss A. Tulley, Mrs. J.
Tweedale, Mrs. D. Cooper, Mrs. E. Lutener, Mrs. M. T. Lees, Mrs.
M. Cowen (to 11-9-59), Mrs. V. L. McCann, Mrs. M. Ward (to
2-7-59), Miss J. Gordon, Miss J. P. Payne, Mrs. J. P. Murrie, Miss
D. Clarkson, Miss M. Regan (from 2-12-58 to 31-3-59), Mrs. O.
Watmough (from 23-3-59 to 31-8-59), Miss M. V. A. Radcliffe
from 30-3-59), Miss I. E. Smith (from 17-3-59), Mr. F. P. Earnshaw,
Mr. E. L. Taylor, Mr. F. Higgins, Mr. J. Wilson.

Domestic Help Organiser:

Mrs. E. M. Winterbottom (nee Kenworthy)

OLDHAM CREMATORIUM

Medical Referee:

J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Referees:

John Starkie, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Horace Bailey, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 28-2-59)

Basil Gilbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (from 11-2-59)

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

General Statistics

Area in acres	6,390
Enumerated Population (census 9-4-51)	121,212
Registrar General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1959)	117,800
Density of Population, i.e., number of persons per acre	18.44
Number of houses in the Borough, 31st December, 1959 :	
(a) Permanent	41,585
(b) Temporary (prefabricated)	350
	————— 41,935
Number of new houses erected in 1959 :	
(a) Permanent :	
(i) by local authority	203
(ii) by other bodies or persons	100
	————— 303
(b) Temporary (prefabricated):	
(i) by local authority	—
(ii) by other bodies or persons	—
	————— —
Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1959)	£4,429
Rateable Value (1st April, 1959)	£1,350,406
Total number of persons on doctors' lists at 31-3-60	117,424
Number of marriages during the year	878
Persons married per thousand of population	7.45

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Live Births (Males, 977; Females, 969)	1,946
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	16.52
Stillbirths (Males, 29; Females, 20)	49
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 births	24.56
Deaths (Males, 858; Females, 836)	1,694
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population	14.37
Maternal Deaths	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 births	0.50
Deaths of Infants under one year	45
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	23.12
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	15.93
Peri-natal mortality rate per thousand total births	39.09
Other Death Rates per 1,000 of estimated population:	
Tuberculosis :	
(a) All forms	0.13
(b) Pulmonary	0.11
Other respiratory diseases	2.44
Cancer	2.29
Smallpox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, and Diphtheria	Nil

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Oldham is situated in the County of Lancaster on the south-western slopes of the Pennines. Its highest point is 1,225ft. and its lowest 350ft. above sea level.

The principal industries in the Borough are textile spinning (especially cotton spinning) and textile engineering, with substantial general engineering and building and civil engineering, vehicle building, distributive trades and clothing industry. Other numerous light industries have been established over a number of years.

Area and Population

The area of the Borough on the 1st January, 1959 was 6,390 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the Borough at the middle of 1959 is 117,800, which compares with 118,300 for the previous year.

At the 1951 census the population was 121,212.

Rateable Value

The Borough Treasurer, Mr. R. N. Holroyd, has kindly supplied the following information:—

The penny rate product is that at the 31st March, 1959, namely, £4,429.59.

The rateable value is at the 1st April, 1959, namely, £1,350,406.

These compare with a penny rate product of £4,456 and a rateable value of £1,154,135 for the previous year.

Unemployment

Mr. D. M. Sinclair, Manager of the Local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied particulars of the unemployed on the registers at the Oldham and Chadderton Employment Exchange and the Oldham and Chadderton Youth Employment Bureaux during the year together with the following information relating to employment during this year:—

“The outstanding feature during the past year was the virtual elimination of short-time working and the progressive decline in the number of wholly unemployed workers, in spite of the fact that several mills in the area had closed down under the Cotton Industry Reorganisation Scheme. The full extent of the closures and the repercussion on the employment situation is not yet known, consequently the future pattern of employment in that industry has yet to be revealed.”

**OLDHAM AND CHADDERTON EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE AND OLDHAM AND CHADDERTON YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX. UNEMPLOYED REGISTERS during the Year 1959**

DATE	WHOLLY UNEMPLOYED				TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED				TOTALS	
	Men 18 & over	Women 18 and over	Boys under 18	Girls under 18	Men 18 & over	Women 18 and over	Boys under 18	Girls under 18	Wholly Unemployed	Temporarily Suspended
12th January, 1959	1,219	402	136	16	2,661	1,465	30	58	1,773	4,214
9th February, "	1,229	444	59	15	2,274	1,668	35	53	1,747	4,030
9th March, "	1,231	434	23	18	855	1,358	21	29	1,706	2,263
13th April, "	1,156	452	62	11	1,064	1,341	19	40	1,681	2,464
11th May, "	1,062	405	29	12	831	1,101	13	13	1,508	1,958
15th June, "	919	405	21	6	333	654	2	5	1,351	994
13th July, "	890	346	16	7	471	475	3	3	1,259	952
17th August, "	824	405	58	14	330	318	—	—	1,301	648
14th September, "	839	405	43	17	196	309	3	11	1,304	519
12th October, "	865	395	16	11	58	40	—	—	1,287	98
16th November, "	822	373	17	10	9	44	—	1	1,222	54
7th December, "	842	399	16	7	8	5	1	—	1,264	14

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Births Registered

(a) Live Births

There were 2,857 live births (1,447 males and 1,410 females) registered in the Borough during the year. After correction for inward (51) and outward (962) transferable births, the net total of births is 1,946 (977 males and 969 females).

The illegitimate live births numbered 121, or 6.22 per cent of the total live births.

(b) Still Births

During the year, 81 stillbirths were registered. After being adjusted by inward and outward transfers the number is 49. The stillbirth rate is 24.56 per thousand total births which compares with 23.99 for the previous year and 20.7 for England and Wales.

Births Notified

During the year, 1,921 notifications of birth were received relating to 1,874 live births and 47 stillbirths. In addition, 980 notifications were received which were transferred to other authorities concerned. The 2,826 live births and 75 stillbirths were notified as follows:—

Midwives	2,891
Doctors	10

Marriages

There were 878 marriages during the year, the rate per thousand of the population being 7.45. In 1958 the number of marriages was 930 and the rate 7.86.

Deaths

During the year, 2,114 deaths were registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (92) and outward (312) transferable deaths, the net total deaths is 1,694 (858 males and 836 females), a decrease of 6 on the total for 1958.

Of the 1,694 deaths, 675 (39.87 per cent) occurred in one or other of the following hospitals:—

Oldham and District General Hospital	474
Oldham Royal Infirmary	131
Westhulme Hospital	8
Strinesdale Hospital	4
Woodfield Maternity Home	1
Dr. Kershaw's Cottage Hospital	7
Royal Infirmary, Manchester	4
Christie Hospital, Manchester	2
Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester	6
Park Hospital, Davyhulme	2
Monsall Hospital, Manchester	4
Booth Hall Hospital, Blackley	3

Baguley Hospital, Manchester	3
Jewish Hospital, Manchester	1
Ancoats Hospital, Manchester	3
Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale	4
General Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne	3
Racefield Pulmonary Hospital, Chadderton	3
The Infirmary, Stockport	2
Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport	2
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	1
Walton Hospital, Liverpool	1
General Hospital, Llandudno	1
Other Outside Hospitals	4

Of the total deaths, 1,150 (67.93 per cent) occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

The following are the chief causes of death in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1957 :—

Tuberculosis	15
Malignant Neoplasms, Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Hæmatopoietic Tissues	271
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	264
Coronary Disease, Angina	181
Hypertension with Heart Disease	26
Other Heart Disease	282
Other Circulatory Disease	93
Pneumonia	97
Bronchitis	137
Suicide	19
Motor Vehicle, other accidents, homicide and operations of war	52

These groups of diseases account for 1,437 deaths occurring during the year, or 84.82 per cent of the total Oldham deaths registered.

Table of Causes of Death at different periods of life during the year 1959.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75+
ALL CAUSES	M	858	28	1	7	3	5	11	23	75	178	251	276
	F	836	17	1	1	4	4	8	14	43	121	252	371
1 Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	M	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	1	2
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...
2 Tuberculosis—Other forms ...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Syphilitic Disease	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
4 Diphtheria	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infections ...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
10 Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	M	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	10	4	8
	F	27	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	7	9	7
11 Malignant Neoplasm—Lung	M	39	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	8	15	9	4
Bronchus	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
12 Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	25	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	5	5	8	5
13 Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	8	5
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	73	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	11	12	28	20
	F	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	11	18	12
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	2
	F	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1
16 Diabetes	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	F	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	1
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	113	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	5	16	45	45
	F	151	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	23	36	84
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	M	115	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	17	30	38	25
	F	66	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	11	28	22
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	5
	F	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	4
20 Other Heart Disease	M	101	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	9	30	56
	F	181	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	14	41	121
21 Other Circulatory Disease ...	M	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	6	4	22
	F	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	21	29
22 Influenza	M	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	9	2	3
	F	15	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	2	8	2
23 Pneumonia	M	48	4	...	2	...	...	1	...	3	8	10	20
	F	49	3	...	1	...	1	1	1	4	4	12	22
24 Brouchitis	M	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	24	38	24
	F	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	7	15	17
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	2
	F	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duo- denum	M	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	3
	F	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	1
27 Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	M	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
	F	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...
	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations ...	M	5	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	6	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
32 Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	M	65	19	...	2	...	...	2	1	1	11	13	16
	F	69	9	...	...	1	...	2	2	5	9	20	21
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	M	10	...	...	1	...	3	2	1	2	1	...	...
	F	7	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	4	...
34 All other Accidents	M	19	...	...	1	1	2	1	...	1	3	2	8
	F	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	12
35 Suicide	M	15	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	3	3	3
	F	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
36 Homicide and Operations of War	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Maternal Mortality

During the year one maternal death occurred in the Borough which was directly attributed to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.50 per 1,000 live and still births. This rate compares with a mortality rate for the previous year of 1.64.

Deaths due to Pregnancy and Childbirth 1

Case No. 1/59. Aged 33 years.

(645) Haemorrhage from a ruptured ectopic pregnancy.
Post-mortem without inquest.

The deceased was found in a collapsed state by the police in a local park in the early hours of the morning and removed to hospital where she died a few hours after admission. The circumstances were reported to the Coroner, who ordered a post-mortem examination. This patient had not booked for hospital or home confinement.

Deaths due to Associated Causes 3

There were three deaths due to associated causes registered in the Borough. The cause of each death was as follows:—

Case No. 2/59. Aged 18 years.

(E972) Asphyxia due to domestic coal gas poisoning self-administered whilst the balance of her mind was disturbed.

Post-mortem. Inquest held.

The deceased was found lying near the gas oven in the kitchen. She had left a letter addressed to her mother. The circumstances were reported to the Coroner who ordered a post-mortem examination. Post-mortem findings disclosed that the uterus was soft and bulky and examination showed that pregnancy was present. This patient had not booked for hospital or home confinement.

Case No. 3/59. Aged 19 years.

(063) Peripheral circulatory failure following an acute infection.

Post-mortem without inquest.

This patient was discharged from hospital following her confinement. On discharge she appeared well, but 24 hours later she commenced with vomiting and diarrhoea and the following day she died. The circumstances were reported to the Coroner, who ordered a post-mortem examination.

Case No. 4/59. Aged 39 years.

(5600/6) Myocardial failure due to peritonitis due to perforation of the ileum.

Post-mortem without inquest.

This patient was a booked district case. Shortly after commencing in labour she was admitted to hospital. She was subsequently delivered and later a laparotomy was performed. The circumstances were reported to the Coroner who ordered a post-mortem.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, confidential reports were completed for the above deaths and forwarded to the Regional Assessor,

Infant Mortality

There were 70 deaths (46 males and 24 females) of infants under one year of age registered in the Borough. After correction for inward (6) and outward (25) transferable deaths, the net total of infant deaths is 45 (28 males and 17 females), a decrease of 4 on the total for the previous year. Of the 45 infant deaths, 3 were those of illegitimate children and 31 occurred in infants under 4 weeks old, equivalent to a neo-natal mortality of 15.93 per 1,000 live births.

The following table shows the neo-natal and infant mortality during the last five years, together with five-year averages from 1935:—

Year	Infant Deaths under four weeks of age	Neo-Natal Mortality rate per 1,000 births	Infant Deaths under 1 year	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 births
Average 5 yrs.—1935-1939	60	35.75	107	64.68
Average 5 yrs.—1940-1944	47	26.86	109	62.48
1945	47	24.75	96	50.55
1946	47	22.05	92	43.15
1947	69	26.45	147	58.03
1948	55	24.57	104	46.47
1949	51	25.94	82	41.71
Average 5 yrs.—1945-1949	54	24.75	104	47.98
1950	35	18.73	66	35.31
1951	46	23.72	79	40.74
1952	49	27.34	77	42.97
1953	36	19.04	59	31.20
1954	31	18.06	46	26.81
Average 5 yrs.—1950-1954	39	21.38	65	35.41
1955	36	20.47	54	30.70
1956	36	19.90	49	27.09
1957	28	14.62	51	26.63
1958	32	17.87	49	27.37
1959	31	15.93	45	23.12
Average 5 yrs.—1955-1959	33	17.76	50	26.98

INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1959. Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year.

INDEX	CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-3 days	3-4 days	4-5 days	5-6 days	6-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year
Classification	ALL CLASSES—Certified .	20	2	3	3	..	..	1	29	..	1	1	31	5	4	4	1	45
331	Cerebral haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
340/3	Meningitis . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
491	Bronchopneumonia . . .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	6
493	Pneumonia, Unspecified . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
571	Gastro-Enteritis . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
583	Hepatic Failure with Hypoplastic Anaemia . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
752	Congenital Hydrocephalus . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	2
754	Congenital Heart Disease . . .	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	2
756/2	Congenital Malformations of Digestive System . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
757/1	Polycystic Disease of Kidney . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1
760	Intra-cranial Haemorrhage . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
760/5	Intra-cranial Haemorrhage with Prematurity . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
762	Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis . . .	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
762/5	Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis with prematurity . . .	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	5
771	Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
771/5	Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born with prematurity . . .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
772	Malnutrition . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
773	Hydramnios with multiple foetal abnormality . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
773/5	Hyaline Membrane Prematurity . . .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
776	Prematurity . . .	6	..	1	1	..	..	1	9	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	9
	TOTALS	20	2	3	3	..	..	1	29	..	1	1	31	5	4	4	1	45

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR	Popula- tion estimated to middle of each year	BIRTHS			Total deaths regis- tered in the Borough	Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths after correction			
		Births Regis- tered	Nett after correction			Of non- residents regis- tered in the Borough	Of resi- dents not regis- tered in the Borough	At all ages		Under 1 year	
			Number	Rate				Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 nett births
1930-1939 Average 10 years	—	2016	1734	12.9	2314	380	72	1962	14.7	126	72
1940	118,400	2092	1542	13.02	2359	510	101	1950	16.47	105	67
1941	116,860	2317	1649	14.11	2376	533	86	1929	16.50	107	64
1942	114,300	2576	1707	14.93	2163	513	65	1715	15.00	110	64
1943	112,300	2885	1845	16.43	2292	542	77	1827	16.27	114	61
1944	112,700	3268	2023	18.03	2168	525	83	1726	15.39	108	53
1945	111,350	2911	1899	17.05	2145	486	71	1730	15.54	96	50
1946	116,240	3420	2132	18.34	2148	525	70	1693	14.56	92	43
1947	117,900	4076	2533	21.48	2213	524	74	1763	14.95	147	58
1948	120,600	3477	2238	18.56	2146	516	60	1690	14.01	104	46
1949	120,600	2950	1966	16.30	2302	562	59	1799	14.92	82	42
1940-1949 Average 10 years	—	2997	1953	16.82	2231	524	75	1782	15.36	106	55
1950	119,500	2946	1869	15.64	2114	503	107	1718	14.38	66	35
*1951	119,450	2913	1939	16.23	2139	453	112	1798	15.05	79	41
1952	119,800	2632	1792	14.96	1973	424	123	1672	13.96	77	43
1953	119,100	2707	1891	15.88	1999	244	93	1848	15.52	59	31
*1954	120,340	2479	1716	14.26	1980	262	99	1817	15.10	46	27
1955	120,400	2581	1759	14.61	2135	405	95	1825	15.16	54	30
1956	119,500	2727	1809	15.14	2122	502	88	1708	14.29	49	27
1957	118,800	2787	1915	16.12	2153	491	97	1759	14.81	51	27
1958	118,300	2658	1790	15.13	2096	499	103	1700	14.38	49	27
1959	117,800	2857	1946	16.52	2114	512	92	1694	14.37	45	23
1950-1959 Average 10 years	—	2728	1842	15.45	2082	429	101	1754	14.70	57	31

* Borough Extension

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1959

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	Perinatal Mortality Rate	Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tubercular Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)		
								Maternal causes excluding abortion	Due to Abortion	Total maternal mortality
England & Wales	16.5	11.6	22.2	21.0	34.2	.077	.008	.32	.06	.38
Birkenhead	17.9	12.9	21.1	25.2	35.9	.11	.06	.36	...	.36
Burnley	15.7	15.45	26.71	16.01	37.09	.074	...	...	...	...
Bury	16.59	14.34	31.05	26.21	43.34	.03	...	...	...	...
Halifax	15.92	14.74	23.15	18.82	31.8	.06	...	...	...	...
Liverpool	20.6	11.3	27.4	23.4	39.5	.135	.004	.25	.06	.31
Manchester	18.34	12.49	26.35	24.21	39.4	.12	.01	.79	.16	.95
Oldham	16.52	14.37	23.12	24.56	39.09	.11	.02	.50	...	.50
Preston	17.20	14.07	32.0	22.4	39.32	.04	.009	1.0	...	1.0
Rochdale	15.9	15.7	29.0	35.8	48.0	.06	.01	1.4	...	1.4
Salford	18.27	13.01	23.99	23.88	41.68	.19	.01	...	...	...
St. Helens	17.1	10.8	24.3	36.2	49.9	.12	...	1.02	...	1.02
Stockport	15.6	12.27	27.57	27.26	44.41	.04	.007	...	...	...
Wallasey	17.85	12.55	26.06	22.29	37.69	.078	.01	.53	...	.53
Wigan	15.55	11.82	27.73	23.97	40.99	.11	.01	...	...	...

The figures quoted for England and Wales are provisional and have been obtained from the Registrar General's quarterly and weekly returns.

SECTION II

HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES

MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

The Hospital and Specialist Services are provided through the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and a full Consultant Service is available through the Oldham Hospital Group.

A Domiciliary Specialist Service has been established by the Board and all practitioners are aware of the facilities available.

UNITED MANCHESTER HOSPITALS

This is the designated teaching group for the area and comprises the following:—

Manchester Royal Infirmary

Manchester Royal Eye Hospital

St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children

Dental Hospital of Manchester

Manchester Foot Hospital and School of Chiropody

These hospitals and other hospitals in the Manchester and Salford area are utilised by Oldham residents for the more specialised services.

OLDHAM AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

GROUP II

The following have been appointed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board as members of the Management Committee:—

For the period ending:—

31st March, 1960—Sir Frank Lord, O.B.E., M.A., J.P. (Chairman)

31st March, 1961—Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.

Dr. J. T. Chalmers Keddie, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Councillor W. Wheeler.

31st March, 1962—Councillor J. Bradley, J.P.

Mrs. E. Rothwell, J.P.

Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P.

Councillor J. E. Driver, T.D., LL.M.

I am indebted to Mr. F. W. Barnett, Secretary of the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee, for the details contained in the following report:—

The Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee is responsible for the following hospitals and clinics, and as the agent of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, undertakes their day to day administration.

Oldham Royal Infirmary: This is a general hospital of 203 beds with surgical, orthopaedic, ophthalmic and aural beds, a limited number of medical and gynaecological beds, and a children's ward. The hospital serves as the casualty hospital for the area and provides full out-patient facilities.

Oldham and District General Hospital: This hospital has a total bed complement of 965. There are 411 beds for medical, surgical, orthopaedic, paediatric, gynaecological, ear, nose and throat, dental and maternity patients, the latter being accommodated in a large Maternity Unit which contains a premature baby unit. Of the remaining 554 beds, 334 are in the Geriatric Unit, 7 of which are allocated for venereal diseases, and 220 are in the Psychiatric Unit. Adaptations to an existing open fronted pavilion in the grounds of the Psychiatric Unit were completed during the year, and the building was brought into use as a Day Care Unit for female psychiatric patients in June.

There are 8 private beds in the general part of the hospital and 2 for obstetric cases in the Maternity Unit. There are also 6 amenity beds in the Maternity Unit all of which are in single wards.

Full out-patient facilities are provided, the following specialities being accommodated in separate departments—ante-natal, tuberculosis, venereal and dermatological diseases, psychiatric, geriatric. Facilities are also available for the repair of hearing aids and the issue of replacement batteries.

Strinesdale Hospital: This hospital provides accommodation for 55 patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis—53 being in the main ward and 2 in separate chalets.

Chadderton Hospital: This hospital, which is situated in Chadderton, provides 52 beds for patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. During the year, to meet the requirements of the Regional Hospital Board, the hospital changed from the treatment of women to that of men.

Westhulme Infectious Diseases Hospital: This hospital provides 34 beds for patients suffering from infectious diseases. During the year two wards previously available for cases of infectious diseases were adapted and brought into use as a Dermatological Unit of 24 beds.

One ward block provides accommodation for 32 psycho-geriatric patients and also accommodates a limited number of patients for day care. These patients are under the care of the Consultant Psychiatrist and the unit is staffed from the Psychiatric Unit at the Oldham and District General Hospital.

Woodfield Maternity Home: This is a general practitioner maternity home with 20 amenity beds.

Dr. Kershaw's Cottage Hospital, Royton: This is a general practitioner hospital situated in Royton and provides accommodation for 20 patients.

The Orthopaedic Clinic, Gainsborough Avenue: This clinic also provides facilities for physiotherapy and artificial sunlight. Cases are referred for treatment from the school clinics, child welfare centres and by private practitioners.

THE HARGRAVES CONVALESCENT HOME

This home, providing 28 beds, usually known as "The Nook," is situated in Saddleworth, and is administered by the Huddersfield Hospital Management Committee, 21 beds being available for patients from the Oldham hospitals.

EMERGENCY MATERNITY UNIT

An Emergency Maternity Unit operates from the Oldham and District General Hospital and is available to all general practitioners in the area.

PATHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The pathological work of the Public Health Department is undertaken in the laboratories of the Oldham Hospital Group and by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. Bloods for serological examination are now forwarded to the Central Serological Unit, Withington Hospital, Manchester.

NURSING HOMES

There are no registered nursing homes in the Borough.

OLDHAM AND DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES CONTRIBUTORY ASSOCIATION

The following information is given by courtesy of Miss D. Barton, Secretary of the Association:—

The Oldham and District Health Services Contributory Association is a voluntary association whose object is to enable contributors to provide by means of a small weekly payment, convalescent treatment, physiotherapy in the home and also to obtain financial assistance towards expenses for surgical appliances, dentures, optics and the like. Assistance is also given towards payment for home help, and the provision of sick room and invalid equipment. There is no income limit for contributors. The rates of contribution are 2d. per week for a single person and 4d. per week for a married person. The contributions entitle the member, his wife, and his or her children up to school-leaving age to receive the benefits of the scheme, but do not entitle any other person or persons dependent on the member to receive the benefits. Such persons may become members of the scheme by payment of the recognised contribution.

During the year the Association provided the following benefits to members resident in the Borough and the adjacent districts:—

Convalescent Cash Grants	213
Optical	5,278
Dental	1,255
Surgical Appliances	54
Convalescent Bus Fares	135
Home Helps	6

The Association provides a Mobile Physiotherapy Service, operating two vans. The following figures relate to the work of the Unit during the year:—

Number of patients visited	350
Number of visits	4,090
Number of treatments	8,654

The number of treatments is made up as follows:—

Massage	3,372
Exercises	2,030
Ultra Violet Ray	22
Radiant Heat	1,121
Infra Red	41
Faradism	273
Short Wave Diathermy	1,795

The local health authority makes an annual grant of £25 to the Association for the facilities provided in connection with the loan of nursing equipment and convalescence.

SECTION III

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

HEALTH CENTRES

(Section 21)

It has been agreed that a centre for local health authority services with provision, at some future date, for general practitioner services, should be erected on a site which has been reserved at Alt Lane, Abbeyhills.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

(Section 22)

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics

The Central Clinic, 29, Queen Street, provides facilities for ante-natal and post-natal clinics. Ante-natal clinics are held each afternoon from Monday to Friday, with the exception of Wednesday afternoon when new cases attend for booking and examination by the midwife. An assistant medical officer attends the booking session when blood specimens are taken for W.R., P.P.R., Haemoglobin and Rh. tests. An additional medical officer session is held each Monday morning to take blood specimens for repeat haemoglobin tests. These are normally taken at the 32nd week of pregnancy and further specimens are taken when considered necessary. Mr. A. H. Barber, Consultant Obstetrician, attends this clinic each week on Tuesday afternoon and alternate weeks on Thursday afternoon. No clinics are held in the homes of the midwives.

A post-natal clinic is held weekly on Thursday morning, attendance being by appointment. The Consultant Obstetrician attends this clinic which is followed by a special session for cases referred for specialist advice or treatment.

Expectant mothers are advised on all aspects of ante-natal and post-natal care, and lectures and talks are arranged by the Supervisor of Midwives. The advantages of inhalational analgesics are fully explained and apparatus is available at the clinic for demonstration purposes.

By arrangement with the Principal of the Women's Institute, which is under the control of the Education Committee, a sewing teacher attends the booking session each week to instruct mothers in the making and repairing of children's clothing.

Greenacres Ante-Natal Clinic was officially opened by His Worship The Mayor, Councillor James Bradley, J.P., on the 6th January. This clinic is accommodated in the same premises as the Greenacres Infant Welfare Centre which has been closed since 17th October, 1957, for adaptations to the premises to provide ante-natal facilities. This clinic serves the mothers in the area of Greenacres and the surrounding districts, who are most appreciative of such facilities being brought nearer to their homes thus saving long and tiresome journeys by bus to the central clinic, particularly as these mothers are often accompanied by young children; and avoiding standing in long queues for buses and using buses at peak periods

on their return home from the clinics. This centre is situated in its own grounds with open aspect which makes a visit to the centre a pleasing afternoon out for the mothers who are provided with light refreshments. The clinic is held each week on Tuesday afternoon and is attended by the Consultant Obstetrician, fortnightly.

Honeywell Lane Ante-Natal Clinic, which was opened in May, 1958, is held weekly on Thursday afternoon and the Consultant Obstetrician attends fortnightly.

The following are the ante-natal and post-natal clinics provided, with days and times of sessions :—

Ante-Natal Clinics	Day	Time
Queen Street : (Central)	Monday	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.
	Tuesday	2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
	Wednesday ...	9-30 a.m. to 12 noon 2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
	Thursday	2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
	Friday	2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
Greenacres :	Tuesday	2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
Honeywell Lane :	Thursday	2-0 p.m. to 4-30 p.m.
Post-Natal Clinic (Central) Queen Street	Thursday	9-0 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.

The following table gives details of the sessions held and attendances made at the clinics:—

	No. of premises* in use at end of year (whether held at Child Welfare Centres or elsewhere)	Average No. of sessions held per month during the year		No. of women in attendance		Total No. of attendances during the year	
		Medical Officers' Sessions	Mid-wives' Sessions	No. of women who attended during the year	No. of new cases	Medical Officers' Sessions	Mid-wives' Sessions **
Ante-Natal Clinics	3 (1)	18	16	1,593	1,221	5,028	4,484
Post-Natal Clinics	—	4	—	36	36	36	—

* Premises used both for ante-natal and post-natal work shown in parenthesis.

**Attendances at booking sessions are included in the Midwives' Sessions.

Relaxation Exercises

Throughout the year special classes, in association with the ante-natal clinic, were held weekly each Wednesday and Thursday evening at the Queen Street Clinic. A fully qualified physiotherapist attends each class. Talks on mothercraft are given by midwives.

Provision of Maternity Outfits

Maternity outfits, sterilised and packed ready for use, are available free to expectant mothers whether or not they have booked a municipal midwife for their confinement and can be obtained at the ante-natal clinic.

Dental Inspection and Treatment

Special arrangements exist for the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children and by agreement with the Education Committee, the resources of the School Dental Service are available on a user basis. The Principal School Dental Officer, Mr. J. Fenton, L.D.S., is responsible for the organisation of the service and has direct access to the appropriate Sub-Committee.

Mr. Fenton, with the full approval of the Education Committee, holds an appointment under the Manchester Regional Hospital Board as Visiting Dental Officer to the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee and attends the Oldham and District General Hospital for two sessions per week where he is able to treat mothers and young children requiring hospital facilities.

I am indebted to Mr. James Fenton, Principal School Dental Officer, for the following report:—

Expectant and Nursing Mothers

“Owing to the critical position of the staffing of the School Dental Service, it has not been possible to provide a fully comprehensive dental service for this important priority class, nor has it been possible to extend or improve the provision for the expectant and nursing mother and the pre-school child.

There does not appear to be any immediate prospect of recruiting staff since newly qualified dentists are not attracted to the Local Authority Dental Service. In addition, the dentists practising under the National Health Dental Service are so inundated with work that the priority classes are unable in many cases, to obtain treatment through this alternative service.

The Government has now agreed to increase the size of the Dental Schools in an effort to train more dentists. In addition, 1960 will see the commencement of a two-year course to train dental ancillaries. Unfortunately, it will be a number of years before the effects of these training schemes are felt.

It is also a matter of speculation as to whether the termination of National Service in 1960, will provide any more recruits to the Local Authority Dental Service.

In the meantime, the only alternative means of combating the ever-increasing dental decay is by concentrating on dental health education—people must be taught correct dietetic and oral hygiene habits. In addition more serious consideration should be given to the fluoridation of drinking water which has been proved an effective and harmless method of reducing decay.

Inspection—During the year 370 patients received a dental inspection and 340 (91.89 per cent) were found to require treatment. Of the patients not requiring treatment 2 were edentulous and wearing full dentures. Of the patients requiring treatment 330 (97.05 per cent) accepted treatment at the dental clinics and 4 patients (1.21 per cent) stated a preference to attend a dental practitioner of their own choice.

It is interesting to record that 90 patients had attended dental practitioners and received conservation treatment, i.e., fillings, and that 18 patients had received fillings through the School Dental Service, but did not continue with this type of treatment after leaving school. Financial barriers cannot be the entire reason for this state of affairs, since everyone is entitled to free dental treatment under the National Health Service up to the age of 21 years.

Treatment.—Details of the treatment carried out are given in the appended returns.

1,153 permanent teeth were extracted as compared with 867 last year.

170 permanent teeth were filled. Unfortunately, many of these patients are not interested in conserving their teeth and do not place great value in the retention of their natural teeth.

155 scalings were performed and this is often associated with attendant gum treatment.

30 X-rays were taken to assist in correct diagnosis and treatment—use being made of the X-ray Unit installed at the Cannon Street Clinic.

69 complete and 16 partial dentures were supplied during the year.

The services of a dental mechanic to the profession have been used to assist in the construction of dentures.

A general anæsthetic was administered on 65 occasions when teeth were extracted. The services of Dr. G. Mason-Walshaw, the Anæsthetist employed in the School Health Service, are utilised when required. The employment of a highly competent and experienced anæsthetist is essential in this work.

The services of Mr. W. C. Mellor, F.D.S., R.C.S., Consulting Dental Surgeon to the Oldham Hospital Group, are available if required.

Pre-School Children

During the year 332 children received a dental inspection compared with 317 in the previous year.

These children are usually referred from the infant welfare centres.

Previous reports have mentioned the increase in the incidence of dental decay in pre-school children and the early age at which many of these young children complain of toothache, but even with adequate staff it would be extremely difficult to tackle this problem by the recognised methods of treatment, i.e., conservation of teeth by the insertion of fillings.

702 teeth were extracted and 26 fillings were inserted in temporary teeth.

283 children received general anæsthetics for the extraction of teeth.

The very young children who require a general anæsthetic are referred to the Oldham and District General Hospital and are usually treated as out-patients. The Principal School Dental Officer in his capacity as Visiting Dental Officer to the hospital is able to arrange and carry out the necessary treatment.

The following figures indicate the ages of the 332 children examined during the year:—

Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
1	8	34	142	147	—

Details of the work undertaken for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children are shown in the following table:—

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Children 5 years & under
(a) Provided with Dental Care:		
Examined	370	332
Needing Treatment	340	302
Commenced Treatment	330	288
Made Dentally Fit	221	298
(b) Dental Treatment Provided:		
Extractions	1,153	702
Anæsthetics:		
Local	371	11
General	65	283
Fillings	170	26
Scalings or scaling and gum treatment	155	2
Silver Nitrate Treatment	2	14
Dressings	10	7
Radiographs	30	1
Crowns or inlays	—	—
Dentures Provided:		
Complete	69	—
Partial	16	—

Supply of Welfare Foods

The central storage and distribution centre for infant welfare foods is in premises owned by the Corporation and situated in Greaves Street. This centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday.

The infant welfare centres are used as distributing points. Two full-time clerks and three part-time assistants are engaged in the distribution and supply of infant welfare foods.

Care of Premature Infants

All infants weighing 5½lb. or less at birth are regarded as premature irrespective of the period of gestation.

Premature infants born on the district, where the home conditions are unsatisfactory, are removed to hospital by ambulance in a special cot and are accompanied by the midwife. In other cases arrangements are made by the Supervisor of Midwives for the home nursing of these infants and, if necessary, suitable equipment is supplied.

One district midwife, specially trained and experienced, was employed whole-time on the nursing of premature infants. This midwife is contacted immediately after confinement and attends until the baby weighs 6 lbs., or the mother is able to care for the infant herself without supervision. She also attends all premature infants discharged from the Oldham and District General Hospital and the Woodfield Maternity Home.

Premature Births

The following table gives details of premature births notified during the year relating to Oldham residents (including transferred notifications):

	Premature Live Births	Premature Stillbirths
(a) In Hospital	124	20
(b) At Home	45	5
(c) In Private Nursing Homes	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	169	25
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Weight at Birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS												PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS		
	Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed entirely there			Born in nursing home and transferred to hospital on or before the 28th day		
	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died Within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days
3lb. 4oz. or less (1,500 gms. or less)	18	10	5	3	...	3	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	7	3
Over 3lb. 4oz. up to and including 4lb. 6oz. (1,500—2,000 gms.)	24	1	23	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1
Over 4lb. 6oz. up to and including 4lb. 15oz. (2,000—2,250 gms.)	29	1	26	5	...	5	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...
Over 4lb. 15oz. up to and including 5lb. 8oz. (2,250—2,500 gms.)	53	...	53	25	...	25	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	1
Totals	*124	12	107	37	...	37	8	2	5	...	...	...	...	20	5

* This figure includes the Woodfield Maternity Home.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and Their Children

No Mother and Baby Home is provided but full use is made of the services available through voluntary organisations. An annual grant is made to the Oldham Council for Moral Welfare for which the services of their social worker are available. The grant made this year was again £150.

Cases are referred to the social worker for investigation. She advises the expectant mother on the social aspects of her problem and arranges admission to a suitable home or hostel where necessary. In certain cases where it has not been possible for her to make this provision through the homes available to her, the department has made every endeavour to obtain suitable accommodation.

Under these arrangements, 6 cases received ante-natal and post-natal care being admitted to the following homes; one was confined in the maternity home and five in hospitals in the area of the home:—

St. Bridget's Home, Chester	1
St. Anne's Maternity Home, Heywood	1
The Grange, Wilpshire, Blackburn	1
Parkinson House, Preston	3

Child Welfare Centres

A Child Welfare Centre is held at 29, Queen Street, twice weekly, and there are eight branch centres, five of which are accommodated in church premises. The use of the Townfield Youth Centre for this purpose was continued by arrangement with the Education Committee to whom application is made annually in January. The Greenacres Centre, which was closed temporarily on the 17th October, 1957, for adaptations to be carried out to provide ante-natal and post-natal facilities, was re-opened on the 6th January.

It is intended to provide two new centres in the near future; one by adapting the former Tate Street Nursery which was closed as a nursery in December, 1957, and the other in premises situated in the Limeside area, formerly belonging to the Housing Department and used as a Central Works Depot in connection with the extension of the Limeside Estate. It is proposed that work on the latter centre will be commenced during the current financial year and the Tate Street Centre during the following year.

A doctor is in attendance at each of these centres. Details of the centres are as follows:—

Centre		Days	Times
Central	Queen Street	Tuesday	9-30 a.m.
Central	Queen Street	Friday	9-30 a.m.
Edward Street	Werneth	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Millgate	Hollins Road	Thursday	2-0 p.m.
Beulah	Withins Road	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Honeywell Lane	off Ashton Road	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Honeywell Lane	off Ashton Road	Friday	2-0 p.m.
St. Ambrose	Prince Charlie Street	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Pitt Street East	off Glodwick Road	Wednesday	2-0 p.m.
Townfield	Townfield Street	Tuesday	2-0 p.m.
Greenacres	Greenacres Road	Thursday	2-0 p.m.

Orange juice, cod liver oil, national dried milk and vitamins issued by the Ministry of Food are obtainable at all the centres and certain proprietary brands of infant food can be purchased.

By arrangement with the Principal of the Women's Institute, which is under the control of the Education Committee, a sewing teacher attends the centres on alternate weeks to advise mothers on the cutting out and sewing of children's clothing, patching, darning and how to "make do and mend" with clothes generally.

Clinic Assistants are employed at the centres in connection with the sale of foods and to assist in the keeping of records, etc.

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres During 1959

Centre	No. of children who first attended during the year and who at their first attendance were under 1 year of age	No. of children who attended and who were born in:			Total No. of children who attended	No. of attendances made by children who at the date of attendance were:			Total attendances during the year
		1959	1958	1954-57		Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	
St. Ambrose..	123	107	88	48	243	2,076	329	114	2,519
Beulah	101	89	68	61	218	1,692	300	83	2,075
Central	329	275	208	137	620	3,975	653	320	4,948
Edward St ..	187	168	106	67	341	2,390	386	148	2,924
*Greenacres ..	113	88	46	53	187	1,566	249	125	1,940
Honeywell Lane	198	180	171	104	455	3,531	847	306	4,684
Millgate	114	96	82	69	247	1,650	318	100	2,068
Pitt St.	178	150	127	106	383	2,688	641	263	3,592
Townfield	131	118	98	60	276	2,017	235	63	2,315
	1,474	1,271	994	705	2,970	21,585	3,958	1,522	27,065

* Greenacres re-opened 6th January, 1959.

Co-operation with Voluntary Organisations

With the exception of the Oldham Council for Moral Welfare, no duties have been delegated to voluntary organisations. The following contributions were paid to the voluntary organisations named during the financial year 1959/60:—

	£	s.	d.
National Society of Children's Nurseries	3	3	0
Invalid Children's Aid Association	3	3	0
Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents	2	2	0
National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child	10	10	0
Oldham Council for Moral Welfare	150	0	0
*National Association for Maternal and Child Welfare ...	10	10	0
National Baby Welfare Council	3	3	0
**Central Council for Health Education	40	9	0

* Increased from £5 5s. 0d. to £10 10s. 0d.

** Increased from £25 16s. 0d. to £40 9s. 0d. (the total contribution made by the local authority is £65 9s. 0d., £25 0s. 0d. being met by the Education Committee).

DAY NURSERIES

Municipal Day Nursery

The following accommodation was available on the 1st January:—

	Age Groups			Total
	0-1	1-2	2-5	Places
Overens Street	5	12	25	42

The nursery was open each day, Monday to Friday, from 7-0 a.m. to 6-30 p.m., but closed on Saturday morning.

The charge is 6s. 0d. per day, but this may be reduced in cases of hardship, and appeals against the full charge are dealt with by the Appeals Section of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

The total number of attendances made by children was 7,895. This compares with 7,464 for the previous year.

NURSERIES AND CHILD-MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

Industrial Day-Nurseries

On the 1st January, 7 nurseries were registered under this Act for children aged 0—5 years and provided a total accommodation of 279 places comprised as follows:—

Age 0—1 year	19 places
Age 1—2 years	78 places
Age 2—5 years	182 places

In addition, 3 premises were registered for children over the age of 5 years and provided a total accommodation of 120 places during school holiday periods.

Details of these nurseries have been given in previous reports.

No plans for new nurseries, or modifications of existing accommodation were submitted or approved.

The Derker Nursery (46 places) was closed on the 30th January, and the Coldhurst Hall Nursery (30 places) was closed on the 2nd October.

The following table summarises the industrial day nursery provision at the 31st December:—

Name of Nursery	Age Groups			Total Places
	0-1	1-2	2-5	
*Hartford House	—	20	48	68
Iris Mill	12	16	19	47
Oldham Twist	—	13	19	32
Royd Mill	—	—	17	17
*Werneth Spg. Co. ...	—	15	24	39
Totals	12	64	127	203

* These firms provide transport to and from the nursery.

At the 31st December, the following accommodation was available for school children and registered for use during school holiday periods only:—

Name of Nursery	Age Groups	Total Places
Belgrave Mills	5-11	55
All Saints' School (Werneth Spg. Co.)	over 5	45
Iris Mill	5-10	20
Total		120

Close co-operation exists between the department and the industrial firms concerned, and by arrangement, regular visits are made to the nurseries by the medical staff of the department for medical inspection and immunisation of the children. The firms are encouraged to consult the department if any difficulties arise.

In two nurseries, the management also employ their own medical practitioner, who visits regularly.

Voluntary Day Nurseries—Day Nursery for Spastic Children

In January, the Heathbank Day Centre, which is maintained by the Oldham and District Spastics Society was registered as a day nursery with accommodation for 20 children.

These premises were formerly registered as an industrial day nursery, the Heathbank Day Nursery, which closed in August, 1956. The premises which were generously donated to the Society, have been suitably adapted and fully equipped for their new use and receive cases from Oldham and the adjacent districts.

Child Minders

No child minder is registered under the Act.

No applications for registration were received during the year.

MIDWIVES' SERVICE

(Section 23)

At the beginning of the year in addition to the Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives, 18 full-time midwives were employed. During the year five midwives left the service and four (one part-time) were appointed and

commenced duty. One midwife, who was granted leave of absence from the 31st December, 1958, recommenced duty in a part-time capacity on the 1st September. The following were employed at the end of the year:—

- 1 Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives.
- 1 Assistant Non-medical Supervisor.
- 1 Assistant Superintendent (Midwives' Home).
- 14 District Midwives (full-time).
- 2 District Midwives (part-time).
- 15 Pupil Midwives.

One of the district midwives specially trained and experienced, undertook full-time duties in connection with the nursing of premature babies. In addition to the above, two part-time nurses were engaged on duties in connection with hospital discharges and other special visits. They undertake no deliveries and accept no bookings.

The night duty system established in 1955, which has proved most satisfactory, continued throughout the year. Under this arrangement a State Registered Nurse is on duty at the Midwives' Home from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. for the purpose of receiving calls and allocating cases to midwives on duty. This nurse also assists with the maintenance of equipment and the keeping of records.

The Oldham District Midwifery Service is approved by the Central Midwives' Board as a Part II Training School. During the year, 23 pupils commenced training and 15 pupils, who completed their training, were successful in the Part II Examination of the Central Midwives' Board.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee has approved the award of prizes to the best pupil midwives. An examination consisting of a written paper, viva voce and practical, is carried out each six months and prizes are awarded on the results of the examination which is conducted by members of the staff. Three prizes were awarded—one of £3 3s. 0d., one of £3 and one of £2.

In March, the Establishment Committee approved an allowance of £3 to each pupil midwife towards the expense of outdoor uniform. Prior to this date, only indoor uniform had been provided for pupil midwives.

At the end of the year, in addition to the Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives and the Assistant Non-medical Supervisor, 10 midwives approved by the Central Midwives' Board as teachers of pupil midwives, were employed in the service.

Attendance After Confinement

The midwife attends the mother and baby for one month after confinement. This arrangement only applies to mothers confined on the district and has not yet been extended to cover hospital discharges.

Transport

In 1955, the Finance and General Purposes Committee agreed an Assisted Purchase Scheme for midwives using their own cars to carry out official duties and included midwives as "essential users."

Since the inception of this scheme, 10 midwives have received loans and at the end of the year 9 midwives, all of whom had received loans in earlier years, were using their own cars under the scheme.

Midwives who had not provided their own cars continue to use public service vehicles, but transport is provided through the Ambulance Service from 5-30 p.m. to 8-30 a.m. at week-ends and public holidays. By arrangement with the Cleansing and Transport Department, a car is available during the daytime for urgent calls to confinements: for midwives attending cases out of their own district and in emergency. This car is also available for transporting analgesic equipment.

Midwives' Accommodation

The approved allocation of Corporation houses for district midwives is 6.

At the end of the year the following accommodation was provided:—

I. Rented from Corporation Housing Department ...	3 houses 1 flat
*II. Midwives' Home	1

* This home provides accommodation for 12 midwives or pupil midwives and resident domestic staff.

Post-Certificate Instruction

The Assistant Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives attended an approved post-graduate course arranged by the Association of Supervisors of Midwives and held in London from the 15th to the 21st April. Two of the approved teaching midwives attended an approved refresher course for midwives; one at Stoke-upon-Trent from the 13th—18th April, and one at Oxford from the 20th—26th September.

In May, the premature baby nurse attended the Sorrento Hospital, Birmingham, for one month to undertake further training in the care of premature babies.

Hospital Discharges

Arrangements exist for maternity patients discharged before the fourteenth day from the Oldham and District General Hospital and Woodfield Maternity Home, to be notified to the appropriate local health authority. In the case of Oldham residents, the name, address, and date of discharge are notified to the Non-medical Supervisor of Midwives by telephone prior to an agreed discharge form being received.

Administration of Inhalational Analgesics

The number of sets of apparatus for the administration of inhalational analgesics in use throughout the year was 14 Gas and Air and 12 Trilene. Trilene was administered to 504 cases during the year.

All the midwives employed were qualified to administer inhalational analgesics in accordance with the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board. Provision is made for the training in the use by approved methods of analgesics of domiciliary midwives entering the service who have not already received this training.

During the year, 942 cases were delivered and of these 894 (94.90 per cent) received inhalational analgesic. The remaining 48 cases did not receive inhalational analgesic for the following reasons:—

Patient refused	5
Medical reasons	1
B.B.A. or delay in summoning midwife	36
Doctor booked, but not for inhalational analgesics	1
Not booked	5

The following table shows the number of cases in which inhalational analgesics and pethidine were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—

	Number of cases in which inhalational analgesics were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—				Number of cases in which pethidine was administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year:—	
	When doctor was present at time of delivery of child		When doctor was not present at time of delivery of child		When doctor was present at time of delivery of child	When doctor was not present at time of delivery of child
	Gas and air	"Tri-lene"	Gas and air	"Tri-lene"		
Domiciliary Midwives employed directly by the Local Health Authority	29	22	363	482	14	219
Domiciliary Midwives in private practice or employed by organisations not acting as agents of Local Health Authority	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals:	29	22	363	482	14	221

The following table shows the number of deliveries attended by midwives during the year:—

	Domiciliary Cases					Cases in Institutions
	Doctor not booked		Doctor booked		Totals	
	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child	Doctor present at time of delivery of child (either the booked doctor or another)	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child		
Midwives employed by local health authority	1	100	49	792	942	...
Midwives employed by Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee at :—						
(a) Oldham and District General Hospital ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1455
(b) Woodfield Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	471
Midwives in private practice ... ..	...	...	...	2	2	...
Totals	1	100	49	794	944	1926

Number of cases delivered in institutions but attended by domiciliary midwives on discharge from institutions and before the fourteenth day 924

Breast Feeding

Number of domiciliary cases in which the infant was wholly breastfed at the fourteenth day 745

SUMMARY OF WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES DURING THE YEAR

Confinements:

Number of cases booked 1089
 Number of confinements attended 939
 Number of cases receiving inhalational analgesic ... 894

Visits:

Ante-natal cases 6089
 During lying-in period 23599
 Hospital discharges 2744

Premature babies :

(i) Domiciliary births 516
 (ii) Hospital discharges 520

During the year, 1,874 live births and 47 stillbirths relating to Oldham residents were notified. Of these 966 (50.3 per cent) occurred in institutions and 955 (49.7 per cent) were domiciliary confinements. Of the latter 950 (99.5 per cent) were attended by municipal midwives and 2 by a private midwife. Of the remaining 3, one was notified by a midwife from an adjacent authority and the other 2 by general medical practitioners.

During the year, 107 cases were referred by the Almoner of Oldham and District General Hospital for investigation into home conditions to ascertain if these were suitable or otherwise for domiciliary confinement. In 82 cases the conditions were considered to be suitable and the patients subsequently booked for domiciliary confinement.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1951

Supervision of Midwives

During the year 64 midwives notified their intention to practise, compared with 52 in 1958. At the end of the year the following midwives were practising in the area of the Borough:—

In Domiciliary Practice:

(a) Employed by Local Health Authority	18*
(b) In private practice	1

Employed in Institutions:

(a) Oldham and District General Hospital	20
(b) Woodfield Maternity Home	9

* Includes Supervisor of Midwives

Medical Aid under Section (14) (1) of the Midwives' Act, 1951

There were 68 medical aid forms sent in by domiciliary midwives as compared with 76 in 1958. The conditions for which medical aid was sought were as follows:—

Conditions in Mother		Conditions in Child	
Breast condition	1	Coryza	3
Delayed labour—first stage	2	Cyanosis	1
second stage	2	Inflammation of or discharge	
third stage	1	from eyes	19
Foetal distress	2	Prematurity	5
Hypertension	1	Skin condition	2
Phlebitis	4	Other conditions	2
Post-partum hæmorrhage	3		
Pyrexia	5		
Ruptured perineum	14		
Uterine inertia	1		
Other conditions	1		

Emergency Maternity Unit

During the year the Emergency Maternity Unit operating from the Oldham and District General Hospital was called out to 12 domiciliary cases attended by municipal midwives for the following emergencies:—

Ante-partum hæmorrhage	2
Obstetric shock	1
Post-partum hæmorrhage	4
Retained placenta	3
Eclamptic fit	1
Abortion	1

In addition the Emergency Maternity Unit was called out to attend a single woman who had not booked for hospital or home confinement.

HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

(Section 24)

There has been no change in the service during the year. The statistical return summarises the work undertaken by the health visitors.

There is complete co-ordination with the School Health Service, all health visitors being appointed school nurses and the Superintendent Health Visitor being Superintendent School Nurse.

At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Superintendent Health Visitor.
- 1 Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor.
- 1 Senior Health Visitor.
- 12 Health Visitors (including 1 Tuberculosis Visitor).

No resignations were received from health visitors during the year and four health visitors, all of whom had been sponsored by the authority as student health visitors, were appointed—three in July and one in October. One health visitor was granted leave of absence from the 1st January. At the end of the year in addition to the Superintendent Health Visitor, the Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor and the Health Visitor engaged on tuberculosis work, 13 health visitors devoting 2/11ths of their time to the School Health Service were employed. A Senior School Nurse/Health Visitor, employed by the Education Committee, was devoting 4/11ths of her time to duties in the Health Visiting Service.

The scheme for the appointment of student health visitors continued and four student health visitors, two of whom had been employed for a short period as public health nurses, commenced training at the Manchester College of Science and Technology in September.

Housing accommodation is available for married health visitors through the Housing Committee. This facility has not been requested to date.

Arrangements exist for one or more health visitors to attend a refresher course each year. Two health visitors attended a course arranged by the Women's Public Health Officers' Association and held at Cambridge from the 18th July to the 1st August. A two-day refresher course arranged by the Manchester Public Health Department and held in Manchester, was attended by eight health visitors from this authority.

The Superintendent Health Visitor and one other health visitor are included in the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation as "casual users." At the present time only the Superintendent is using her car under the scheme.

The following table summarises the work of the health visitors during the year:—

Number of Visits Paid by Health Visitors

H E A L T H V I S I T O R S									Tuber- culosis Visitor
Number of children under 5 years of age visited during year	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children age 1 and under 2 years	Children age 2 but under 5 years	Tuber- culous House- holds*	Other Cases	Total visits paid to tuber- culous households
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	Total Visits	
8,010	39	94	1,922	13,337	6,450	11,669	132	3,323	2,569

* Visits by Health Visitor other than Tuberculosis Visitor

The 3,323 visits made by health visitors to other cases were made up as follows:—

Stillbirths	4
Infant Mortality	1
Handicapped children	307
Cases of Infectious diseases :	
Whooping Cough	114
Measles	1,281
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5
Dysentery	395
Immunisation	1
Vaccination :	
Poliomyelitis	2
Smallpox	11
Nursery Accommodation	90
Daily Minders	16
Applications for provision of Domestic Help	305
Aged and infirm persons	786
Other visits	5
	<hr/> 3,323 <hr/>

The total number of visits during the year is 46,038 which includes 8,464 ineffective visits.

Attendances made by health visitors at Child Welfare Centres, Clinics, Nurseries and Nursery Classes:—

Child Welfare Centres	1,112
Day Nurseries	58
Chest Clinic	165
Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic	315
Immunisation Clinic	7

Oldham Mothers' Circle

The Oldham Mothers' Circle is a voluntary body with a committee of eight mothers, president, secretary and treasurer. The president is Miss C. Williamson, Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor, who deserves much credit for her painstaking efforts in this particular field of work. Miss Williamson is assisted by a number of voluntary helpers from the mothers who attend the Circle.

Meetings are held fortnightly on Thursday evening at the Community Centre, Clegg Street. A small charge is made to members to cover the cost of the room. The object of the Circle is to establish a friendly relationship between the mothers and advise them on all social aspects to keep them abreast of the times. During the year a number of lectures on everyday topics were given, many of them educational in character, from which the mothers would derive knowledge beneficial to them in their everyday life. It also allows these mothers to have a social evening free from everyday cares when they can discuss their problems freely and find relief from tension which can be caused by a long and harassing day.

During the year visits were made to many places of interest and theatre parties were arranged. The handicraft class organised by the Youth Organiser in 1958, was continued on alternate Thursday evenings.

I do feel that we owe a debt of gratitude to Miss Williamson in the outstanding efforts she has made in this venture, which must help considerably in preventing the break-up of family life. Our grateful thanks are also due to the mothers who take active part in the work of the Circle.

HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25)

The Central Office, complete with district room is accommodated on the ground floor in the Greaves Street premises, which also accommodates the central depot for the distribution of welfare foods and the staff of the Health Visiting Service.

The services of a district nurse can be obtained by a general practitioner on application to the Superintendent at the Central Office, Greaves Street. (Telephone No. MAIn 5433).

No night service is provided but evening visits are made to patients where necessary. The district nurses are on rota call for evening and weekend duties and requests by general practitioners are made through the Ambulance Depot to the nurse on call. Telephones are installed in the homes of all district nurses.

Patients discharged from hospital requiring nursing care are notified to the Superintendent by the almoners who give the case history and the name of the general practitioner responsible for the patient. This

arrangement affords the closest co-operation between the hospitals and the Service. There is also good liaison with general practitioners. Doctors have been requested to issue a note prescribing the treatment required, and the district nurse does not attend a patient unless this written authority is available.

At the beginning of the year, four autocycles purchased in 1954, were being used by three male district nurses and one female district nurse. The fourth male district nurse was allowed to use his own cycle and received an allowance. The posts of Superintendent of District Nursing and two district nurses were included in the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation on a "casual user" basis. In April, the Finance and General Purposes Committee approved the addition of six posts of district nurse to the Car Allowances Scheme of the Corporation as "essential users" for 10 h.p. cars with facilities for Assisted Car Purchase. All other district nurses use public transport but at weekends and in exceptional circumstances, e.g., shortage of staff or extraordinary pressure of work, transport is provided by the Ambulance Service. At the end of the year four district nurses had been granted loans under the scheme and were using their own cars for official duties.

At the beginning of the year the staff consisted of:—

- 1 Queen's Superintendent
- 7 Queen's Nurses (4 female, 3 male)
- 8 District Nurses (7 female, 1 male)
- 1 District Nurse (female) (part-time)

Three district nurses were appointed and commenced duty. Three district nurses, one of whom had been granted leave of absence in the previous year, left the service, and one district nurse was granted leave of absence from the 31st December, 1958.

On the 31st December, the staff employed was as follows:—

- 1 Queen's Superintendent
- 9 Queen's Nurses (5 female, 4 male)
- 7 District Nurses (female)
- 1 District Nurse (female) (part-time)

Four female auxiliaries undertake bathing and give personal attention to patients. These auxiliaries are only employed on selected cases and always under supervision. During the year, the auxiliaries made 6,050 visits (408 male, 5,642 female).

Two district nurses, one male and one female, attended a refresher course arranged by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing; one at Durham from the 14th to 21st April, and one at Keele, Staffordshire, from the 18th to 25th September.

Queen's Institute of District Nursing .....	45, 46

The local health authority is in membership with the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

This authority is also a member of the North Western Federation of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and the Chairman of the Home Nursing Sub-Committee (Councillor F. Baxter), Councillor W. Wheeler and the Medical Officer of Health, represented the authority at meetings of the Federation.

There is approval for one student nurse to be appointed under the scheme of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing for the training of district nurses. During the year, Mrs. E. Lutener, S.R.N., and Mr. J. Wilson, S.R.N., who were authorised in the previous year, successfully passed the examination and were placed on the Queen's Roll of District Nurses on the 22nd January, 1959, and on the 14th May, 1959, respectively.

Work Undertaken

There were 2,180 cases (783 males and 1,397 females) nursed and 60,521 visits made by district nurses to these cases during the year. These figures compare with 2,254 cases (834 males and 1,420 females) nursed and 67,821 visits made by the district nurses during the previous year.

There was again a decrease in the number of cases accepted compared with the previous year, these having decreased from 1,753 to 1,683. The number of injections, i.e., penicillin, insulin, liver, vitamin, streptomycin, mersalyl and cytamin, decreased, the total number being 22,805 compared with 26,388 in the previous year, a decrease of 3,583 injections.

Cases Nursed and Visits Made

	Children		Others		Total No. of Cases
	0-5	5-15	Male	Female	
Cases on books at 1st Jan.	1	...	138	358	497
New cases.....	24	34	610	1015	1683
Total cases nursed during the year.....	25	34	748	1373	2180
Cases on books at 31st Dec.	...	2	123	348	473

The following table summarises the cases nursed and visits made by the district nurses during each month of the year :—

		Children		Others		Total No. of Cases	Visits by District Nurses
		0-5	5-15	Male	Female		
January	...	6	2	211	459	678	5804
February	...	4	—	224	476	704	5612
March	...	1	3	196	459	659	5109
April	...	...	2	174	445	621	5030
May	...	1	2	166	416	585	4906
June	...	4	2	160	401	567	4675
July	...	4	3	170	394	571	4825
August	...	3	2	172	408	585	4724
September	...	1	2	182	411	596	4668
October	...	4	6	178	440	628	5028
November	...	4	10	174	444	632	4988
December	...	1	8	170	459	638	5152

New Cases Accepted During Each Month of the Year

Age Groups	0-1		1-5		5-15		15-40		40-60		60-65		65+		TOTALS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Jan.	...	2	2	1	2	...	3	16	15	21	11	11	44	53	77	104
Feb.	2	...	...	...	3	17	17	23	10	13	44	49	76	102
Mar.	1	3	...	6	13	7	16	3	6	34	63	53	99
April	1	1	5	8	14	18	5	10	28	61	53	98
May	1	...	1	...	7	9	6	19	5	5	22	35	42	68
June	2	2	1	1	3	10	9	11	5	11	16	41	36	76
July	...	2	1	1	1	1	4	13	7	14	3	5	27	35	43	71
Aug.	1	1	...	5	12	9	16	4	7	26	39	45	75
Sept.	1	...	...	...	...	2	3	7	18	16	5	7	30	39	57	71
Oct.	3	5	1	6	13	11	24	4	4	24	56	50	101
Nov.	1	1	7	2	4	11	11	21	8	5	29	46	60	86
Dec.	3	1	7	23	17	21	6	6	20	36	53	87
Totals	1	4	9	10	25	9	56	152	141	220	69	90	344	553	645	1038

The following table is a summary of the types of cases nursed and the visits paid to these cases during the year :—

	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others	Totals	Patients included in (2) - (7) who were 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	Children included in (2) - (7) who were under 5 at the time of the first visit during the year	Patients included in (2) - (7) who have had more than 24 visits during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Number of Cases attended...	1569	296	1	20	4	290	2180	1246	25	18
Number of Visits paid ...	48290	10329	2	932	53	915	60521	5896	132	561

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

(Section 26)

Immunisation Against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

1. DIPHTHERIA—PRIMARY IMMUNISATION

It is recommended that the primary course of immunisation should be as follows:—

Age Group	Material	Dosage
0—15 years	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis Prophylactic (Triple Antigen) (Glaxo)	Three injections of 1 c.c. at intervals of four weeks.

N.B.—By using Triple Antigen children are also protected against tetanus and whooping cough.

2. DIPHTHERIA—REINFORCING INJECTIONS

It is recommended that two reinforcing injections be given, the first at the age of 5 years and the second at the age of 10 years. The material and the dosage to be given will depend upon the material used for the primary course of immunisation and should be as follows:—

(a) First Reinforcing Injection: 5—10 years of age.

Following Primary Immunisation with:	Material	Dosage
Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis Prophylactic (Triple Antigen)	Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis Prophylactic (Triple Antigen) (Glaxo)	1 c.c
Diphtheria-Pertussis Prophylactic (DPP)	Diphtheria-Pertussis Prophylactic (DPP) (Glaxo)	1 c.c
Alum Precipitated Toxoid (APT) or other single Diphtheria Prophylactic	Formal Diphtheria Toxoid (FT)	1 c.c

(b) Second Reinforcing Injection: 10—15 years of age.

The following material and dosage should be given for the second reinforcing injection irrespective of the material used for the primary course of immunisation or for the first reinforcing injection:—

Material	Dosage
Diphtheria Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules (TAF)	1 c.c.

All prophylactic is supplied to general practitioners free of charge and can be obtained on application to the department.

Immunisation of pre-school children is carried out at the child welfare centres, the day nurseries, and at nursery schools and classes.

The immunisation state of each school child is reviewed at the school entrance examination when parents are given a personal letter from the Medical Officer of Health together with a detailed programme of vaccination and immunisation procedure giving the ages at which this should be carried out and stressing the importance of reinforcing injections. Parents of children who have not received this protection on entering school are reminded of the dangers of diphtheria and the urgent need for their children to be protected. The immunisation of these children by primary or reinforcing injections is undertaken at the school clinics or at school, depending upon the number of consents received from any one school.

Unfortunately the urgent and important programme of vaccination against poliomyelitis, which commenced in 1956, with its later extensions and inclusion of a third injection at the end of 1958, seriously interfered with immunisation against diphtheria and the number of immunisations, particularly of reinforcing doses, has fallen over this period. This decline is most apparent in school children. During the year, every effort has been made to maintain a high level of immunisation of all children and the full immunisation programme for school children was resumed early in the year and has been continued vigorously.

The following tables summarise :—

I—The number of children—

(a) completing the full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and

(b) receiving a reinforcing injection.

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
(a) Primary Immunisation								
Sessional Arrangements	803	92	25	11	18	14	—	963
Private Practitioners...	221	95	23	9	3	12	—	373
Totals	1024	187	58	20	21	26	—	1336
(b) Reinforcing Injections								
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	8
Private Practitioners...	—	—	—	—	10	44	14	68
Totals	—	—	—	—	12	49	15	76

II—The number of children—

(a) completing the full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and

(b) receiving a reinforcing injection.

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
(a) Primary Immunisation								
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Private Practitioners	16	7	3	—	—	—	—	26
Totals ...	16	7	3	—	—	—	—	26
(b) Reinforcing Injections								
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	—	15	105	1	121
Private Practitioners	—	—	—	—	6	8	6	20
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	21	113	7	141

III—The number of children—

(a) completing the full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria only and

(b) receiving a reinforcing injection

Age in Years	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total under 15 yrs.
(a) Primary Immunisation								
Sessional Arrangements	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	3
Private Practitioners	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	3
Totals ...	1	—	2	1	—	1	1	6
(b) Reinforcing Injections								
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	—	—	—	4	226	230
Private Practitioners	—	—	—	—	7	11	6	24
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	7	15	232	254

IV—The number of children completing the full primary course of immunisation against whooping cough only.

Sessional Arrangements Nil

Private Practitioners 1 (aged 2 years)

The following is a summary of (a) children completing the full primary course of immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and (b) children receiving reinforcing injections :—

	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	Total
(a) Primary Immunisation								
(i) Diphtheria ...	1041	194	63	21	21	27	1	1368
(ii) Whooping Cough	1040	194	62	20	21	26	—	1363
(iii) Tetanus	1024	187	58	20	21	26	—	1336
(b) Reinforcing Injections								
(i) Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	40	177	254	471
(ii) Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	33	162	22	217
(iii) Tetanus	—	—	—	—	12	49	15	76

Vaccination Against Smallpox

At the beginning of the year, vaccination against smallpox was carried out weekly at the Queen Street and Honeywell Lane Infant Welfare Centres, and, commencing on the 16th April, was also carried out fortnightly at the Greenacres Infant Welfare Centre.

The total number of children under one year of age vaccinated during the year was 581 giving a percentage of 29.85 of the total births which compares with a percentage of 38.47 for the previous year.

During the year, 24 children of school age received primary vaccination and 10 were re-vaccinated. Extreme pressure of work following the introduction of a third injection of poliomyelitis vaccine prevented the offer of vaccination and re-vaccination against smallpox to all school leavers during the year. It is hoped to resume this practice in 1960.

At the periodic examination of school entrants the state of vaccination of the children examined is ascertained. During the year of 1,217 children examined, 429 (35.25 per cent) were found to have been vaccinated against smallpox, this compares with 31.7 per cent for the previous year.

The following table indicates the number of persons of all ages vaccinated and re-vaccinated:—

Age at date of vaccination in years	Under 1 yr.	1 year	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15+ yrs.	Totals
Primary Vaccinations						
Sessional Arrangements	287	8	7	5	9	316
Private Practitioners ...	294	62	17	19	98	490
Assistant Medical Officers	—	—	—	—	6*	6*
Totals	581	70	24	24	113	812
Re-Vaccinations						
Sessional Arrangements	—	—	1	1	15	17
Private Practitioners ...	1	1	2	9	114	127
Assistant Medical Officers	—	—	—	—	92*	92*
Totals	1	1	3	10	221	236

*These figures relate to members of the staff who were vaccinated or re-vaccinated by reason of their duties and possible contact with cases of smallpox.

Supplies of lymph are available to all general practitioners on direct application to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton Heath, Manchester, 10. (Telephone : COLlyhurst 2733).

Vaccination of Hospital Staffs

The Medical Officer of Health personally undertakes the vaccination against smallpox of hospital staffs. He attended Oldham and District General Hospital, and the Oldham Royal Infirmary during the year, when the following vaccinations and re-vaccinations were completed:

	Vaccinations	Re-Vaccinations
Oldham and District General Hospital	21	30
Oldham Royal Infirmary	24	43
	—	—
Total:	45	73
	—	—

Vaccination of Persons Travelling Abroad

All persons going abroad are advised to be effectively vaccinated against **Enteric (Typhoid) Fever** and **Paratyphoid Fever** and if they are going to those parts of the Far East where **Cholera** is endemic, to be vaccinated against that disease also.

Persons who are required to be vaccinated against more than one disease should tell the doctor of all the vaccinations needed as they may have to be done in a particular order with certain minimum intervals. Generally, vaccination against **Yellow Fever** should be done first and at least four days before a primary vaccination against smallpox; if a primary vaccination against smallpox is done first there should be an interval of 21 days before the vaccination against yellow fever.

Vaccination against any disease **other than yellow fever**, may be done usually by the person's own doctor. It is available without charge under the National Health Service but the doctor is entitled to charge a fee for some certificates—e.g., International Certificate.

Yellow Fever vaccination must, for International and Technical reasons, be done only at a centre designated by the Government.

In September, Ministry of Health Circular 19/1959 was received which asks local health authorities to inform the Minister whether they would be willing to provide a **Yellow Fever Vaccination Service**. The Health Committee approved a recommendation that no centre be established in Oldham for this purpose, as there was already a centre in Manchester.

Persons desiring vaccination against **Yellow Fever** should apply to the Public Health Department, 3rd Floor, Town Hall, Manchester.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During the year vaccination against poliomyelitis was available to all persons born in the year 1933 and subsequent years and to infants from the age of six months. It was also available to expectant mothers and to certain priority classes and their families.

Vaccination consists of two injections of 1 c.c. with an interval of not less than three weeks between injections and a third injection not less than seven months after the second injection.

All expectant mothers are offered this protection and those who consent are given a certificate from the medical officer stating the week of pregnancy and advising vaccination between the 14th and 35th week of pregnancy. The vaccination is undertaken by an assistant medical officer of health by appointment. An appointment for the third injection is made twelve months after the second injection has been given. Expectant mothers can receive poliomyelitis vaccination from their own general practitioners if they so wish.

The following tables detail (a) the number of persons who received the primary course of two injections of poliomyelitis vaccine and (b) the number of persons who received a third injection.

(a) Primary Vaccination

1. Pre-School Children

Year of Birth	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
	344	351	463	764	161	2083

2. School Children

Year of Birth	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
	384	383	421	451	447	388	388	373	362	370	348	4315

3. Young Persons

Year of Birth	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	
	373	444	420	435	444	500	453	493	591	697	356	5206

4. Expectant Mothers	635
5. Priority Groups	580

Total	12,819
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(b) Third Injections**1. Pre-school Children**

Year of Birth	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
	567	534	431	37	2	1571

2. School Children

Year of Birth	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
	568	603	621	953	833	745	728	735	766	727	580	7859

3. Young Persons

Year of Birth	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	
	26	10	13	17	17	12	10	9	11	20	468	613

4. Expectant Mothers 425

5. Priority Groups 660

Total : 11,128

AMBULANCE SERVICE**(Section 27)**

The area served includes the Saddleworth district of the West Riding County Council.

The total number of cases removed was 62,049, which compares with 52,603 in the previous year, an increase of 9,446. The mileage run, 294,649, which includes 51,225 miles, in connection with other services, shows an increase of 31,400 miles.

The patient mileage increased by 29,673 to a total of 229,380 miles. In 1959, the miles run per patient was 3.69 miles which compares with 3.79 miles per patient in 1958.

The following figures detail the cases removed :—

	Ambulances	Dual Purpose Vehicles	Total
Oldham County Borough	19,989	36,043	56,032
West Riding County Council	2,391	3,547	5,938
Lancashire County Council	79	—	79
Other Authorities	—	—	—
	<u>22,450</u>	<u>39,590</u>	<u>62,049</u>

In addition to the above, 16 cases were removed by train, the return fare of an escort being provided in all cases.

The following figures indicate the total number of miles run—

	Ambulances	Dual Purpose Vehicles	TBU 57 HBU 743	Total
Oldham County Borough	69,733	161,650	12,041	243,424
West Riding County Council	18,882	31,853	—	50,735
Lancashire County Council				
(999 calls)	490	—	—	490
	<hr/> 89,105 <hr/>	<hr/> 193,503 <hr/>	<hr/> 12,041 <hr/>	<hr/> 294,649 <hr/>

The number of cases removed in the County Borough area has again increased the total number being 56,032, compared with 47,823 in the previous year, an increase of 8,209. The total mileage run, which includes other services, increased by 23,666 to a total of 243,424 miles.

The number of cases removed on behalf of the West Riding County Council also increased, the total number being 5,938 compared with 4,643 in the previous year, an increase of 1,295. The mileage increased by 7,925 to a total of 50,735 miles.

The number of cases removed for 'Other Authorities' and the Lancashire County Council decreased, being 79 compared with 137 in the previous year, a decrease of 58. The mileage also decreased by 191 to a total of 490 miles.

Transport is provided for patients attending the Psychiatric Out-Patients' Department at the Oldham and District General Hospital and for "day care" patients attending the Psychiatric Unit at Westhulme Hospital. Dual purpose vehicles are used for this service and the following mileage was involved:—

'Day-Hospital' patients	22,846
Out-patients	2,664

The conveyance of patients to and from the Geriatric Out-Patient Department at the Oldham and District General Hospital was continued and involved a mileage of 18,952 miles, compared with 18,648 in the previous year, an increase of 304 miles.

All children suffering from burns and scalds are conveyed direct to the special unit at Booth Hall Hospital, Manchester, and during the year, 49 children were removed, compared with 36 during the previous year, an increase of 13.

In accordance with the National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957, 11 removals were effected by other authorities for the County Borough and in all cases a charge was made for these removals.

The majority of journeys outside the Borough are to hospitals in the Manchester area. Journeys beyond these limits are not numerous and long distance journeys (over 100 miles) are comparatively rare, and whenever possible the patient is conveyed by rail. There were 90 single journeys over 25 miles but under 50 miles; 13 single journeys over 50 miles, but under 100 miles. No journeys of 100 miles or more were made.

During the year the Oldham Police requested the removal of 69 dead bodies.

The Emergency Maternity Unit (Flying Squad) called on the service 21 times during the year.

In December, all the ambulances were fitted to carry the electric, portable, baby incubator which is kept at the Oldham and District General Hospital.

On the 1st January, the fleet consisted of 7 ambulances and 10 dual purpose vehicles.

During the year 2 new vehicles were taken into service :—

September—1 Bedford/Lomas ambulance, TBU 524.

September—1 Bedford/Lomas small dual purpose vehicle, TBU 525.

During the year, 2 vehicles were removed from service :—

Ambulance, GBU 699.

Sitting case vehicle, GBU 134.

On the 31st December, the fleet consisted of 7 ambulances and 10 dual purpose vehicles. All vehicles are fitted with radio-telephone equipment.

Driver/attendants are entered each year for the National Safe Driving Competition of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents. At the end of the year out of 29 driver/attendants, 19 had qualified for an award, 11 drivers received the diploma, 2 the five year medal, 3 a bar to their five year medal, 2 the 10 year medal and 1 the Oak Leaf to his ten year medal.

The approved establishment at the 31st December was as follows :—

- 1 Ambulance Officer
- 1 Deputy Ambulance Officer
- 7 Station Officers
- 2 Driver/Mechanics
- 29 Driver/Attendants
- 2 Telephonists
- 1 Handyman
- 4 Part-time Drivers

Arrangements with Adjacent Health Authorities

West Riding County Council

By agreement with the West Riding County Council, the Oldham Ambulance Service accepts and removes all accident, emergency and infectious cases arising in the Saddleworth area, with the exception of the occasional case occurring in the areas remote from Oldham and proximate to Huddersfield, which is usually removed by one of the County Ambulances based at Huddersfield. Payment for work done is based on a rate per mile, which is determined at the end of each financial year.

Lancashire County Council

All '999' calls arising in the Lancashire County Council area are now re-routed to the County Control at Radcliffe, a direct line being installed on the 9th July, 1959. There were 237 calls re-routed to the Radcliffe Control and only 16 were returned for the Oldham Service to

complete. In addition the Radcliffe Control requested 63 cases to be completed by the Oldham Service. This total of 79 cases was a reduction of 58 on the previous year, and the mileage of 490 was a reduction of 191 on the previous year.

(1) Midwives' Service

For normal routine duties, midwives who do not use their own cars use public transport, but for urgent cases during the daytime and when analgesic apparatus is required, a car is requested from the Cleansing and Transport Department. At all other times and over the week-end, the Ambulance Service is responsible for providing transport for the midwives. In November, the system was changed and the Ambulance Service now provides transport day and night.

In May, a Ford Escort TBU 57 replaced the Ford Prefect HBU 743.

A total of 16,725 miles was incurred which compares with 16,240 for the previous year.

(2) Home Nursing Service

For normal routine duties, district nurses who do not own their own cars use public transport, but at week-ends and in exceptional circumstances, e.g., shortage of staff, or extraordinary pressure of work, transport is provided by the Ambulance Service. Transport is also provided at night time in the event of an emergency. A total mileage of 2,559 miles was involved, compared with 1,842 miles for the previous year.

(3) Mental Health Service

Regular transport has been provided throughout the year for the conveyance of children to and from the Haven Lane Training Centre and the Creche. Adults attending the Arthurs' Industrial Centre, and the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre are encouraged to make their own way by public transport but where they are unable to do so owing to their disability, they are conveyed to and from the centres by dual purpose vehicles. The total mileage run was 41,130 miles, which compares with 40,857 miles for the previous year.

The following statistics relate to the work of the Ambulance Service during the year and include removals undertaken for the West Riding of Yorkshire and other authorities:—

	Ambulances	Dual Purpose Vehicles	HBU 743 TBU 57	Total
Number of vehicles at 31st December	7	10	—	17
Number of patients carried	22,459	39,590	—	62,049
Number of accident and other emergency removals	4,201	104	—	4,305
Total mileage	89,105	193,503	12,041	294,649

(The total mileage shown includes journeys in connection with other services).

National Ambulance Competition

The Oldham Ambulance Service again entered a team in the No. 1 Region of the National Ambulance Competition held at Southport on 28th June. Eight teams were entered and the Oldham team was placed first. The finals were held at Ryton on Dunsmore on 20th September, when this Authority's team was placed seventh.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

(Section 28)

Tuberculosis

Details of notified cases and other statistics relating to tuberculosis are given in the Infectious Diseases Section of the Report.

There has been no change in the staffing arrangements. Dr. H. S. Bagshaw, Chest Physician, undertakes duties in connection with Prevention and After-Care and the Tuberculosis Health Visitor assists at the Chest Clinic sessions. Dr. Bagshaw is also available for regular consultation on problems which arise in connection with tuberculous patients. These arrangements provide for co-operation between the preventive and curative services.

The supply of milk to patients attending the Chest Clinic and in need of extra nourishment has been continued. During the year, 29 individual patients were issued with 291 orders for the supply of free milk. Each order permits the supply of milk for the period of four weeks, and 39 orders were for two pints per day and 252 orders for one pint per day.

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health the Housing Committee gives re-housing priority to cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with a positive sputum and certain other cases receive some degree of priority. During the year priority recommendations were made in respect of 3 cases. There were 4 families re-housed under this arrangement.

Mass Miniature Radiography

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 64/50, Home Office Circular 228/50, and Ministry of Education Circular 248, staff requiring X-ray examination prior to engagement and at regular intervals are referred to a Mass Miniature Radiography Unit for X-ray of the chest whenever possible. During the year, 172 staff of the Public Health Department and 42 staff of the Children's Department were X-rayed under this arrangement. In addition, 143 staff of other departments of the Corporation were X-rayed. One case of active pulmonary tuberculosis (a male aged 21 years, employed in the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Department) was found and subsequently admitted to hospital.

The X-ray examination of entrants to courses of training for teaching and to the teaching profession is undertaken by the Mass Miniature Radiography Service or at the Oldham and District General Hospital Chest Clinic.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

The following arrangements are in operation :—

Vaccination of Contacts—The vaccination of selected contacts of known cases of tuberculosis has been continued. The arrangements are under the control and supervision of Dr. H. S. Bagshaw, Chest Physician. During the year, 168 children (90 boys, 78 girls), and 5 adults (2 males, 3 females) who were found to be Mantoux negative, received vaccination. Subsequent Mantoux tests were positive.

Vaccination of School Children — The vaccination of older school-children has been continued. The parents of children who would reach 13 years of age during the year were offered B.C.G. vaccination. The arrangements are under the control of the Medical Officer of Health and medical officers who have received special instruction in B.C.G. vaccination undertake these duties.

The following figures relate to the work undertaken during the year:—

No. of children offered B.C.G.	1,775
No. of acceptances	832
Percentage accepting	47
No. excluded on medical grounds	22
No. completing skin testing	773
No. positive	118
Percentage positive	14
No. negative	655
No. receiving vaccination	645

Special Investigations

The combined use of Mantoux testing and miniature X-ray examination provides a valuable approach in the tracing of contacts and the ascertaining of early or missed cases of pulmonary tuberculosis where a known source of infection exists.

Where a group of children or individuals have been in close contact with an open case (sputum positive) a certain procedure should be followed. If the case occurs in a school:—

1. All staff should be Mantoux tested and X-rayed.
2. All children should be Mantoux tested.
3. Children who show a positive reaction should be X-rayed.

Investigation 1/59

In March, a teacher in a junior school was notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis (sputum positive). The parents of all children attending the school and the staff were advised of the facilities available. The parents of all the 214 children, and the 6 teachers and 4 other adults in contact, consented to any necessary X-ray examination and skin testing. X-ray examinations were carried out at the Chest Clinic in respect of 23 children and 8 adults. No case of pulmonary tuberculosis was found as a result of this investigation. There were, however, 9 children referred for further observation.

No. of Children	Investigation 1/59
Heaf tested	214
Heaf negative	191
Heaf positive	23
X-rayed	23
No. of Staff	
Heaf tested	10
Heaf negative	2
Heaf positive	8
X-rayed	8

Investigation 2/59

In May a child from one of the Children's Homes died in hospital from tubercular meningitis. Skin testing of 33 contacts (24 children and 9 adults) was carried out. All the adults were positive reactors and each had a chest X-ray examination. Two were referred for further examination but no significant abnormality was found in either case. Of the 24 children, only two were positive and both were X-rayed with negative results.

No. of Children	Investigation 2/59
Heaf tested	24
Heaf negative	22
Heaf positive	2
X-rayed	2
No. of Staff	
Heaf tested	9
Heaf negative	0
Heaf positive	9
X-rayed	9

Medical Research Council

This large scale clinical trial referred to in previous reports has continued throughout the year. Oldham is one of the authorities participating in the trial, the volunteers being young adults who left secondary modern schools during the 18 months September, 1951 to March, 1953.

During the year, the Unit visited the Borough in April and November, to make follow-up examinations of the young adults already admitted to the scheme and 523 attended. These examinations were carried out by the Medical Research Council's Mass Radiography Unit at the Community Centre, Clegg Street. The volunteers were asked to attend between 4-30 p.m. and 8-0 p.m.

The Medical Research Council provides the medical, radiological and clerical staffs and the Mobile X-ray Unit but the nursing staff of the School Health Service undertakes the home visiting.

The Health Visitors and School Nurses are assisting in the follow-up and during the year visited the homes of the volunteers in order to complete the follow-up reports.

I am indebted to Dr. D. N. Mitchell, Physician-in-Charge of the Unit, for the following report:—

“The follow-up of some 1,000 volunteers who joined the Medical Research Council's Clinical Vaccines Trial in 1951/53, when in their final term at various secondary modern schools, in the Oldham area, continued.

Each participant was asked to complete a postal questionnaire and was subsequently visited by a health visitor on the staff of the Oldham Health Department. These measures are designed primarily to detect evidence suggestive of tuberculosis morbidity and the home visit precedes as near as possible an invitation to the volunteer to attend our Mobile X-ray Unit in the area concerned.

The Second Report of the Tuberculosis Vaccines Clinical Trials Committee to the Medical Research Council was published in September, 1959. This report assesses the benefit which accrues from anti-tuberculosis vaccination over a five year period and shows a percentage reduction in incidence of tuberculosis of 59 per cent for B.C.G. vaccine and 61 per cent for Vole Bacillus vaccine.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the continuing close collaboration of the School Health Services, Public Health Departments, Chest Clinics and Hospitals with the Medical Research Council in the conduct of the trial."

Co-operation with Voluntary Associations

No specific duties have been delegated to voluntary organizations.

The Home Nursing Sub-Committee made a grant of £5 5s. 0d. for the financial year 1959/60 to The Chest and Heart Association (formerly the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis) in support of the general work which the Association undertakes in the fight against tuberculosis.

No patients were admitted to tuberculosis colonies during the year. A male aged 48 years (admitted 1950) continued to remain in the East Lancashire Tuberculosis Colony, Great Barrow, near Chester. A female aged 29 years (admitted 1947 to Papworth Village Settlement) commenced training in February, 1956 under the Ministry of Labour Training scheme. During 1958 the Ministry of Labour grant ceased for this patient, and this authority agreed to meet the increased maintenance charges until such time as she was fit to take up full employment in the colony. This arrangement was still in force at the end of the year.

Mental Illness or Defectiveness

The arrangements for the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or defectiveness are fully described in the Mental Health Section of this report. In a few cases special walking frames have been supplied to assist the defective to learn to walk and become ambulant. Wheel chairs have also been supplied to other cases.

Other Types of Illness

There has been co-operation between the hospital staffs and the officers of the department, and requests were received for information with regard to patients. Assistance has been given through the Home Nursing and Domestic Help Services to patients discharged from hospital.

Provision of Nursing Requisites and Apparatus

(a) By the Local Health Authority

(i) Tuberculous Cases

Nursing requisites are available through the Chest Clinic. During the year 9 patients received nursing requisites and at the end of the year 24 patients were receiving this assistance. The following table shows the items issued during the year, and the equipment on loan at the 31st December:—

Item	No. issued during the year	No. on loan at 31st Dec.
Beds	1	8
Mattresses	3	14
Blankets	11	55
Sheets	10	20
Pillows	7	30
Urinals	1	3
Bed pans	2	2
Air rings	—	1
Bed rests	—	1
Invalid chairs	—	—
Bed tables	1	1

(ii) Maternity Cases

The arrangements with the Midwives' Service for the loan of nursing requisites required for the mother and her baby have been continued. Beds, mattresses, blankets, pillows, cot sheets, cot blankets, bed pans, air-rings, hot water bottles, and nightdresses are available.

(iii) Other Cases

The St. John Ambulance Brigade loan nursing requisites to general medical and surgical cases and the Local Health Authority supplies beds, bedding, fire guards, and commodes in special cases

(b) By Voluntary Organizations

- (i) St. John Ambulance Brigade (Oldham Corps),
Medical Comforts Depot, Park Road, Oldham.

General medical and surgical cases in need of nursing requisites can obtain these through the Medical Comforts Depot. Nursing requisites are obtained on the certificate of a medical practitioner and the Brigade have agreed to make available such items of equipment as the Medical Officer of Health may consider necessary. A deposit is charged when an article is loaned but this is refunded on its return. The depot is open Monday to Friday from 7-30 p.m. to 9-0 p.m. During the year, 394 patients received assistance and 655 articles were loaned. The following table shows the items issued during the year and the equipment on loan at the 31st December:—

Item	No. issued during the year	No. on loan at 31st Dec.
Air-rings	90	90
Bed cradles	14	6
Bed pans	120	110
Bed rests	61	31
Bed tables	24	16
Commodes	11	10
Crutches (pairs)	14	8
Enamel bowls and dishes	14	12
Feeding cups	12	8
Invalid chairs	21	14
Rubber sheets	160	150

Item	No. issued during the year	No. on loan at 31st Dec.
Sorbo beds	—	—
Sputum mugs	3	3
Urinals	70	100
Walking sticks	14	8
Water beds	2	2
Douche cans	5	3
Splints and fracture boards	20	12

For the financial year 1959/60, the Home Nursing Sub-Committee reimbursed the Brigade in respect of all establishment charges incurred at the Medical Comforts Depot and made a grant of £60 for the replacement of nursing requisites.

(ii) Oldham and District Health Services
Contributory Association

The Home Nursing Sub-Committee made a grant of £25 to this Association in respect of the financial year 1959/60, for the facilities they provide for the loan of nursing equipment and convalescence.

Convalescence

No complete scheme for convalescence has been approved by the Health Committee, but it has been agreed that in special circumstances cases may be recommended to the Committee for consideration. No cases were sent under these arrangements during the year.

The Local Education Authority has arrangements for providing convalescence for school children, suitable cases being recommended through the School Health Service. During the year, 12 children (4 girls and 8 boys) were sent for a period of convalescence under these arrangements.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

(Section 29)

There has been no change in the organisation or administration of the service during the year. The Domestic Help Organiser is responsible to the Medical Officer of Health for the general supervision of the service.

The following figures show the number of domestic helps employed at the beginning and at the end of the year:—

	1st Jan.	31st Dec.
Whole-time (30 hours or more per week)...	31	9
Part-time (under 30 hours per week)	51	82

During the year the Organiser made 651 visits compared with 806 in the previous year, a decrease of 155 caused mainly by her absence from duty owing to illness.

Throughout the year the full charge remained at 3/9d. per hour.

All cases are assessed according to income and the applicants advised of the proposed charge. Persons wishing to appeal against the assessment may do so and the appeals are submitted for review to a special section of the Home Nursing Sub-Committee.

Domestic help is provided free of charge to blind and tuberculous persons. Persons entitled to national assistance and having the services of a domestic help, are assessed in the normal manner and an arrangement has been agreed with the Board whereby the amount assessed is recovered from the user.

The total cases assisted, 1,245, compares with 1,160 for the previous year. The following table summarises the cases receiving assistance:—

Type of Case	Cases on books at 1st Jan.	New Cases	Total Cases Receiving Assistance	Cases Cancelled	Cases on books at 31st Dec.
Sickness	53	63	116	43	73
Maternity	—	32	32	32	—
Tuberculosis	4	6	10	5	5
Old Age & Sickness	622	410	1,032	273	759
Blind	40	15	55	9	46
Totals:	719	526	1,245	362	883

Night Attendants

The arrangements for the provision of a night attendant in cases where a patient is acutely ill or living alone, or where the relatives need some temporary night help, continued.

Throughout the year, the charge for this service was 22/- per night session. This amount is recoverable from the patient, but as the majority of cases receiving this assistance are old age pensioners, in only a few cases can the full charge be made.

There were 3 night attendants who undertook regular duties and additional assistance was obtained when there was heavy demand on the service.

Number of cases 55

Number of night sessions 275

These figures compare with 43 cases and 150 night sessions for the previous year.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

All matters relating to Mental Health and Mental Deficiency are referred to the Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee.

The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the administration of the service and is assisted by the Lay Administrative Officer.

Staff

Medical Staff

Dr. H. Bailey terminated his appointment during the year and Dr. B. Gilbert undertook special clinical duties in the department. This officer, together with Dr. J. Starkie, Senior Assistant Medical Officer, is approved by the Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938. These officers are also approved by the Minister of Health for the purposes of making recommendations under Sections 1(3) and 5(3) of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

The services of Dr. G. S. Robertson, Medical Superintendent, Calderstones Hospital, and Consultant in Mental Deficiency, Oldham Hospital Group, are available to the Local Health Authority, and his opinion is sought in cases which present any difficulty or doubt.

Dr. Arthur Pool, Consultant Psychiatrist to the Oldham Hospital Group, is also Consultant Psychiatrist to the Local Health Authority.

Social Workers

The establishment provides for the appointment of the following social workers:—

Mental Health Officers, who also act as Duly Authorised Officers	4
Psychiatric Social Worker, or Mental Health Officer ...	1

At the beginning of the year, 5 mental health officers were employed.

In June, the Senior Mental Health Officer, Mr. W. Davies, left to take up a similar post with Lindsay County Council (Lincs.) and in July, Mr. P. Hudson succeeded him. In November, Mr. J. Morton, Mental Health Officer, terminated duties to take up the post of Social Welfare Officer with the County of Fife. In spite of repeated advertisements it was not possible to fill this vacancy.

All mental health officers are included as casual users in the Scheme of Motor Car Allowances of the Corporation.

Psychologist

The establishment also provides for the appointment of a Psychologist. This officer undertakes duties in connection with the Child Guidance Clinic (two sessions per week) which is provided by the Education Committee, and, by arrangement with the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee, is the Psychologist to the Elizabeth Martland Unit.

Training Centre

The establishment allows for the appointment of 1 supervisor, 2 assistant supervisors and 2 domestic helpers.

Creche

The establishment allows for the appointment of two attendants

Industrial Centres

At the beginning of the year the following was the approved establishment of these centres:—

Arthurs Industrial Centre:

- 1 Senior handicraft instructor (male),
- 1 Handicraft instructor (male).

Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre:

- 1 Senior handicraft instructor (female),
- 1 Handicraft instructor (female).

In March approval was given for the establishment of the Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre to be increased by 1 handicraft instructor (female).

**Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital
Management Committees**

The staff of the Mental Health Service have received the fullest co-operation from the Consultant Psychiatrist of the Oldham Hospital Group and also from the Group Secretary, Mr. F. W. Barnett, who acts as Clerk.

Dr. G. S. Robertson, the Consultant in Mental Deficiency, visits Oldham when his services are required.

Dr. Arthur Pool, in his capacity as Consultant Psychiatrist to the Local Health Authority, holds a weekly case conference with the medical officers and all the mental health social workers when new cases are discussed and the problems and progress of other patients reviewed. This arrangement facilitates co-ordination between the hospital and preventive services.

The Mental Health Officers and the Psychologist undertake duties in the Elizabeth Martland Unit of the Oldham and District General Hospital, which is the responsibility of the hospital service. The Mental Health Officers visit the wards and assist with group and recreational therapy. The Management Committee reimburse the Health Committee the full cost of these services.

The Mental Health Officers have continued to supervise mental defectives on licence. They prepare all reports required in connection with these cases and any reports for cases whose orders for detention are subject to review under Section 11 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

The Mental Health Officers also prepare a detailed social history for patients suffering from mental illness and admitted to a Mental Hospital, and this is forwarded to the hospital concerned shortly after the patient's admission. They prepare any further reports that may be required on home conditions prior to the patient's discharge if requested.

No direct representative of the Oldham and District Hospital Management Committee is co-opted on to the Mental Health Sub-Committee but five members of the Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health are members of the Management Committee.

Co-operation with Voluntary Associations

No specific duties have been delegated to voluntary organisations.

The Mental Health Sub-Committee made a grant of £25 for the financial year 1959/60 to the National Association for Mental Health.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

The majority of patients continue to be referred either to the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department or to the mental health officers for advice rather than for immediate admission to hospital.

In a number of cases a domiciliary visit is arranged with the Consultant Psychiatrist—this is always done with the approval of the general practitioner and on such visits a mental health officer accompanies the Consultant.

There were 104 new cases referred to the Department during the year. Of these 37 required no action with regard to admission to hospital or attendance at the out-patient clinic, and their problems were resolved after discussion with the Consultant Psychiatrist and by follow-up visits. The disposal of the remaining 67 cases was as follows:—

Referred to Welfare Services Department	3
Referred to Consultant Geriatrician	1
Referred to Psychiatric Out-Patients Clinic	13
Admitted to Day Care	11
Admitted to Mental Hospitals	39

The 39 patients receiving treatment in mental hospitals were admitted as follows:—

Under Order (three day)	8
Under Order (fourteen day)	3
Under Summary Reception Order	—
As voluntary patients	27
As informal patients	1

Following the admission of a patient to the Elizabeth Martland Unit or other mental hospital, arrangements are made for relatives to be referred to the mental health officers for information and advice.

In accordance with the Mental Treatment Rules, 1948, details of all admissions, transfers or discharges from the Elizabeth Martland Unit are forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health. Similar information is received from other mental hospitals in respect of Oldham residents.

Many patients on discharge from hospital are recommended for after-care and if the patient is willing, the mental health officers visit these cases. Their progress and any problems that may arise are reported to the Consultant Psychiatrist at his weekly case conference.

The following is a summary of the visits and reports made by the mental health officers:—

Pre-care visits	802
After-care visits	1,227
Visits with Consultant	49
Ineffective visits	320
Social histories	31
Pre-discharge reports	—

Convalescence from Mental Illness

The Mental Health After-Care Association has been unable to secure premises for use as a Convalescent Home for patients suffering from mental illness and no facilities of this type are available in the region.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS, 1890-1930

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959

Work Undertaken by the Duly Authorised Officers

On 6th October, Section 5 of the Mental Health Act, 1959, came into operation whereby patients can be admitted to mental hospitals on an informal basis.

The Mental Health Officers, who are also appointed Duly Authorised Officers, still have statutory duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, and take the initial proceedings for the removal of a patient requiring hospital care.

The services of these officers are available throughout the 24 hours, one officer being on rota duty for evening and weekend calls. The officer on duty can be contacted through the Police or the Central Admissions Bureau of the Oldham and District General Hospital.

The following is a summary of the work undertaken as Duly Authorised Officers:—

(A) Admissions and Removals to Hospital	54
(a) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 16 (Summary Reception Order) ...	17
Elizabeth Martland Unit	16
Prestwich Hospital	1
(b) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 20 (3 day order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit	25
(c) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 21 (14 day order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit	11*
(d) Magistrates' Court Act, 1952, Section 30	
Elizabeth Martland Unit	1†
(B) Completion of Orders for Further Detention	2
(a) Lunacy Act, 1890, Section 16 (Summary Reception Order)	
Elizabeth Martland Unit:	
Oldham Residents	2
Non-residents	0

* Includes 2 non-residents. † Non-resident.

Facilities for Treatment

Out-Patient Treatment

Clinics are held daily in the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department of the Oldham and District General Hospital. A considerable amount of E.C.T. treatment is given to out-patients and two sessions a week are allocated for this treatment.

Day Care

Arrangements exist for selected patients who are considered suitable for day care to be admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital or to the Psychiatric Ward at Westhulme Hospital. In June, a special day centre unit for female patients was opened in premises adjacent to the Elizabeth Martland Unit, which had been adapted to provide accommodation for 36 patients from Oldham and the adjacent districts.

The transport is provided by the Ambulance Service, a sitting case car being used which calls for the patients during the morning and returns them home in the late afternoon or early evening.

On 1st January, 30 patients (8 males, 22 females) were receiving day care and during the year 32 patients (14 males, 18 females) were admitted making a total of 62 patients (22 males, 40 females) who received care in 1959.

On the 31st December there were 28 cases (11 males, 17 females) still attending for day care.

The following is a summary of the 34 cases (11 males, 23 females) ceasing to receive care during the year :—

- (1) Admitted to Elizabeth Martland Unit—5 (3 males, 2 females).
- (2) Admitted to Welfare Services Hostel—2 (females).
- (3) Died—12 (2 males, 10 females).
- (4) Discharged or discontinued—15 (6 males, 9 females).

In-Patient Treatment

The majority of patients requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital. This Unit is a designated mental hospital and modern methods of therapy are undertaken both in the Unit and in the Psychiatric Out-Patient Department of the hospital.

No difficulty has been experienced in securing the admission of mental cases to hospital and in all cases of acute urgency, admission was readily effected.

A limited number of beds are also available in the Psychiatric Ward at Westhulme Hospital. Patients are admitted without formality and are usually transferred from the Psychiatric Unit.

Admissions to Hospital

During the year there were 106 new admissions and 107 re-admissions (relating to 88 old patients) of Oldham residents notified to the department:—

Hospital	Admissions (including re-admissions)				Total
	Under Order	Voluntary Patients	Informal Patients	Temporary Patients	
Elizabeth Martland Unit ...	50	136	23	—	209
Prestwich	1	1	1	—	3
St. George's, Stafford	—	1	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—
	51	138	24	—	213
	—	—	—	—	—

Notification was received of 34 Oldham residents who died in mental hospitals and of 177 discharges.

Information was received of 30 patients detained in hospital who were transferred to voluntary status (Elizabeth Martland Unit, 28, Lancaster Moor 2) and of 12 patients detained in hospital who were transferred to informal status (Elizabeth Martland Unit 3, Prestwich 9).

National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1949

In conjunction with the majority of Local Health Authorities in the North-West, this Authority has agreed to a “knock-for-knock” arrangement in connection with the payment of medical practitioner fees for the certification of patients admitted to the Elizabeth Martland Unit from addresses outside the area of this authority.

During the year no Summary Reception Orders relating to non-residents were completed by the duly authorised officers.

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is utilised for the removal of patients to mental deficiency and mental hospitals. The mental health officers have authority to request an ambulance or sitting-case car and where necessary, the services of attendants are obtained from the Elizabeth Martland Unit.

The transport of patients receiving “day care” to and from the hospital is undertaken by the Ambulance Service. Many out-patients receiving E.C.T. treatment are also conveyed to the Psychiatric Out-Patients' Department and returned home, usually by sitting-case car.

The transport of children to and from the Training Centre and Creche, is also arranged with the Ambulance Service.

Trainees attending the Industrial Centres are encouraged to make their own way by public transport, but where they are unable to do so owing to their disability, they are conveyed to and from the centres by sitting-case car.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY

Cases Reported During the Year

There were 11 cases reported during the year.

Of these, 8 were reported under the Education Act, 1944, 4 having been found incapable of receiving education at school and 4 requiring supervision after leaving school.

There were 3 cases reported under the Mental Deficiency Acts, as follows:—

(a) Detained in the Elizabeth Martland Unit	0
(b) In Welfare Services accommodation	0
(c) At the instance of the parent or guardian	3
(2 males, aged 57 years and 23 years)	
(1 female aged 37 years)	
(d) Found neglected or without visible means of support	0
(e) Referred by the Police or by the Courts under Section 8(1a) or as a result of other action by the Courts	0
(f) Cases reported but not regarded as defectives “subject to be dealt with” and receiving adequate care	0

Further particulars relating to the cases reported during the year are given in the tables relating to mental deficiency.

Ascertained Defectives Found to be “Subject to be dealt with”

During the year there were 11 defectives (6 males, 5 females) found to be “subject to be dealt with.” These were all placed under voluntary supervision.

The following details relate to the 11 ascertained cases found to be “subject to be dealt with” and placed under supervision:—

(a) Children of School Age	8
(1) Incapable of Receiving Education	4
At home—in care of parents	1
Admitted to the Training Centre	2
Admitted to the Creche	1
(2) Requiring Supervision after leaving School	4
There were 4 children who left the Chaucer Special School. All these children (2 males, 2 females) were suitably employed at the end of the year.	
(b) Adults and Juveniles	3
Admitted to the Arthurs Industrial Centre	1
(male aged 23 years)	
At home (male aged 57 years)	1
At home (later admitted to mental deficiency hospital)	1
(female aged 37 years)	

Statutory Supervision

At the beginning of the year there were 218 cases under statutory supervision.

In view of the Mental Health Act, 1959, with its new provisions with regard to mental disorder, no newly ascertained cases were placed under statutory supervision and the review of cases to be removed was held over.

The following 6 cases were removed from statutory supervision during the year:—

Placed under voluntary supervision	0
Admitted to institutional care	4
Removed out of area	1
Died	1

At the end of the year there were 212 cases remaining under statutory supervision.

Institutional Care

Defectives recommended for institutional care are usually admitted to one of the mental deficiency hospitals in the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

At the beginning of the year, 41 cases (21 males, 20 females) recommended for institutional care, including 32 cases detained in the Elizabeth Martland Unit and 2 in Welfare Services accommodation were awaiting admission to mental deficiency hospitals.

During the year 6 cases (3 males, 3 females) were recommended for institutional care.

During the year, 7 cases were admitted to institutional care. Of these, 3 cases (1 male, 2 females) had been recommended in previous years, 1 (female) being resident in the Elizabeth Martland Unit. There were 2 cases (1 male, 1 female) under statutory supervision recommended for institutional care and subsequently admitted. One male under guardianship was brought before the court and admitted to institutional care under Section 7(1) of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913. In addition, one newly ascertained case (female) was recommended for institutional care and subsequently admitted.

There were 4 cases (3 males, 1 female) who died and were on the waiting list. All were resident in the Elizabeth Martland Unit.

At the end of the year 36 cases (18 males, 18 females) recommended for institutional care, including 27 cases detained in the Elizabeth Martland Unit, and 2 in Welfare Services accommodation were awaiting admission to mental deficiency hospitals.

The following table shows the number of cases (1) recommended for institutional care, (2) admitted to mental deficiency hospitals, removed or died, and (3) awaiting institutional care at the end of the year:—

	Recommended for Instit'nal Care			Admitted to M.D. Hospitals, removed or died			Awaiting vacancies in M.D. Hospitals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Cases prior to 1st January...	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	20	41
(i) New Cases									
(a) Ascertained cases	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Ascertained cases (E.M.U.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Court Action	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Other Cases									
(a) Under Stat. Supervision...	2	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	2
(b) Under Stat. Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) In "place of safety"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Court action	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	3	6	2	2	4	1	1	2
Awaiting admission at 1st Jan.	21	20	41	4	3	7	17	17	34
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total at 31st December	24	23	47	6	5	11	18	18	36
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following table summarises the 7 cases admitted to institutional care:—

Hospital		Age Groups				
		0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	Over 20
Brockhall	M ...	—	—	—	—	—
Hospital	F ...	1	—	—	—	—
Swinton	M ...	—	—	1	—	—
Hospital	F ...	—	—	—	—	—
Calderstones	M ...	—	1	—	—	—
Hospital	F ...	—	—	1	—	1
Cranage Hall	M ...	—	—	—	—	1
Hospital	F ...	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		1	1	2	—	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Guardianship

At the beginning of the year there was 1 case (male) under guardianship:—

A male, aged 22 years whose order detaining him in the Royal Albert Hospital, Lancaster, was varied to the guardianship of an officer of the local health authority in 1958.

In January this case was admitted to the Mary Dendy Hospital under a court order.

At the end of the year there were no cases under guardianship.

Voluntary Supervision

At the beginning of the year there were 89 cases under voluntary supervision.

During the year 12 cases were offered and accepted voluntary supervision:—

Newly ascertained cases	11
Discharged from mental deficiency hospital	1

During the year 2 cases (1 male, 1 female) were removed from voluntary supervision:—

Admitted to mental deficiency hospital	1
Died	1

At the end of the year there were 99 cases under voluntary supervision.

Taken to "Place of Safety"

There were no cases admitted into a "place of safety" during the year.

Community Care

The duties of the mental health officers include the community care and supervision of mental defectives under statutory supervision, guardianship and on licence. During the year the following reports and visits were made:—

Reports:

Case Histories	21
Progress reports	6

Visits:

Statutory Supervision	690
Statutory Guardianship	6
Ineffective Visits	149

No mental health officer was appointed as statutory guardian during the year. One mental health officer, however, relinquished his appointment during the year when the case he was supervising was admitted to a mental deficiency hospital. The work of guardianship entails frequent and close contact with the defectives concerned and necessitates strict supervision and management of their affairs.

Temporary Accommodation

During the year short-term care was provided for 15 cases as follows—

	Males	Females
Calderstones Hospital	4	3
Brockhall Hospital	1	2
Greaves Hall Hospital	—	3
Cranage Hall Hospital	—	1
The Manor, Great Sutton	—	1

The periods of accommodation varied from 2 to 8 weeks.

Arrangements with Adjacent Local Health Authorities

By arrangement, suitable cases can be admitted from the Saddleworth district into the Training Centres and a charge is made to the West Riding County Council for these cases.

The Lancashire County Council and the West Riding County Council have agreed that suitable adults should attend the Industrial Centres and meet an agreed charge for these cases.

Creche Facilities

These facilities are available in a large wooden hut on the Glen Mill site. They provide for children who are unsuitable for admission to the Training Centre, and the number of weekly attendances allowed per child varies according to the special needs of the case. Training of a nursery type is undertaken and the services of the psychologist are utilised.

In addition to the two attendants, the services of the mental health officers are also utilised.

At the beginning of the year 19 children (11 males, 8 females) were on the register. During the year 3 children were admitted and 4 discharged. At the end of the year there were 18 children (12 males, 6 females) on the register.

The following details relate to the children discharged:—

Admitted to Calderstones Hospital	2 (1 male, 1 female)
Admitted to Oldham Spastics Centre	1 (female)
Withdrawn by parents	1 (female)

Training Centre

The Haven Lane Training Centre is open each week-day except Saturday and is closed during the ordinary school holidays. A mid-day meal is provided through the School Meals Service, a charge being made to the parents; in necessitous cases this charge is reduced or waived. Free milk is also supplied once a day to each child.

On 1st January, there were 30 pupils on the register, 28 from the Oldham County Borough and 2 from the Saddleworth District of the West Riding County Council. During the year there were 2 admissions (2 boys) from the Oldham County Borough, and 1 boy was withdrawn from the centre when he removed from the area.

On the 31st December, there were 31 children on the register, 29 from the Oldham County Borough and 2 from the Saddleworth District.

The Ambulance Service transports the children to and from the Training Centre, part-time drivers being engaged for this purpose to relieve the strain on the ambulance personnel.

In July, a trip to the seaside was provided by the Oldham Blind Children and Welfare Organisation, when the children were taken to Fleetwood and St. Annes, and once again we extend our gratitude to the members of this Organisation for their continued generous support.

Two Christmas Parties were arranged for the children, one by the Parents' Association and the other by the Oldham Blind Children and Welfare Organisation. Both were very much appreciated.

All the facilities of the School Health Service, including dental inspection and treatment, have been made available to the children attending the Training Centre and Creche, and they are fully used.

Arthurs Industrial Centre

The Arthurs Industrial Centre for mentally handicapped adult males was established in November, 1954, in one of the huts on the Glen Mill site, and was formally opened on the 28th January, 1955, by His Majesty King Peter II of Yugoslavia.

The primary aim of the centre is to train suitable persons for remunerative employment in outside industry so that eventually they become self-supporting members of the community.

At the beginning of the year 38 adult males were attending the centre as follows:—

Oldham County Borough	31
Lancashire County Council	2
West Riding County Council	1
Elizabeth Martland Unit	4*

* This figure includes 3 psychiatric patients.

During the year there were 13 new admissions.

There were 10 discharges as follows:—

Placed in employment	4
Admitted to institutional care	1
Admitted to mental hospital	2
Withdrawn of own accord	1
Died	2

At the end of the year, 41 males were attending the centre, including 1 from the Saddleworth area of the West Riding County Council, 5 from the adjacent Lancashire County districts and 8 from the Elizabeth Martland Unit, 5 of whom were psychiatric cases.

The centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on Saturdays. A mid-day meal is provided through the School Meals Service under the same arrangements as for the Training Centre.

Travelling facilities are provided free, either by the provision of 'bus tokens or by transport through the Ambulance Service.

The work of the centre is varied but the emphasis is on industrial training. The production and repair of selected articles of furniture is undertaken using modern high speed woodworking machinery to which additions have been made during the year, bringing the equipment into line with modern production techniques. A chain link fencing machine is installed and produces wire fencing. During the year fresh activities

have been introduced, such as dismantling gas masks, making carrier bags for an outside firm, making skip clogs on contract and dismantling scrap metal.

The main principle underlying all the training in the centre is the building up of work discipline and 4 trainees were placed in outside remunerative employment during the year, and were still employed at the end of the year though the position was made extremely difficult by the high percentage of unemployed locally.

Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre

The Alice A. Kenyon Industrial Centre for mentally handicapped adult females was established in September, 1957, and formally opened on the 28th January, 1958, by Lady Gertrude Jefferson, M.R.C.S., D.P.M.

The principles of training in the centre are similar to those of the Arthurs Centre in that the primary objective is to train suitable persons for placing in outside employment. A variety of handicraft and domestic training is undertaken and a modern all-electric self-contained laundry has been installed.

The Centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed on Saturdays. The arrangements for mid-day meals and travelling are as at the Arthurs Industrial Centre.

In March, the staff establishment was increased by one handicraft instructor (female) and in April, Mrs. A. Marney was appointed to this post.

At the beginning of the year 40 adult females were attending the centre, as follows:—

Oldham County Borough	24
Lancashire County Council	2
West Riding County Council	3
Elizabeth Martland Unit	11*

* This figure includes 6 psychiatric patients.

During the year there were 16 new admissions.

There were 9 discharges as follows:—

Placed in employment	1
Re-admitted to mental deficiency hospital	1*
Admitted to Psychiatric Unit (E.M.U.)	2
Discharged from Psychiatric Unit (E.M.U.)	3
Ceased to attend	2

* This patient had been on licence and was re-admitted after absconding.

At the end of the year, 47 females were attending the centre, including 3 from the Saddleworth area of the West Riding County Council, 5 from the adjacent Lancashire County districts and 13 from the Elizabeth Martland Unit, 6 of whom were psychiatric cases.

Home Training

No special arrangements were provided for the home training of mental defectives.

The following are the statistical returns relating to mental defectives:—

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 to 1938

I. Particulars of mental defectives as on 1st January, 1960

	M.	F.	T.
(1) No. of Ascertained Mental Defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with":—			
(a) In Institutions (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age	8	5	13
Aged 16 years and over	53	39	92
In Elizabeth Martland Unit, Oldham and District General Hospital (over 16)	14	19	33
(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom)			
Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	—	—	—
(c) In "places of safety"	—	—	—
(d) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)			
Under 16 years of age	22	14	36
Aged 16 years and over	96	89	185
TOTAL ascertained cases found to be "subject to be dealt with"	193	166	359
(2) No. of mental defectives under Voluntary Supervision:—			
Under 16 years of age	4	3	7
Aged 16 years and over	57	35	92
TOTAL number of mental defectives	254	204	458
(3) Awaiting removal to an Institution (included in (1) (d) above)			
Under 16 years of age	2	1	3
Aged 16 years and over	3	3	6
* TOTAL	5	4	9

* In addition 27 defectives (13 males, 14 females) detained in the Elizabeth Martland Unit were awaiting admission.

(4) No. of mental defectives receiving training:—

	M.	F.	T.
(a) In Training Centre	16	10	26
(b) In Industrial Centres	19	21	40
(c) In Creche	11	5	16
TOTAL	46	36	82

II. Particulars of cases reported during 1959(a) Cases at 31st December ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with"
Action taken on reports by:—

(i) Local Education Authorities on children

	M.	F.	T.
(1) While at school or liable to attend school	2	2	4
(2) On leaving special schools	2	2	4
(3) On leaving ordinary schools	—	—	—
(ii) Police or by Courts	—	—	—
(iii) Other sources	2	1	3

(b) Cases reported who were found to be defectives but not regarded as "subject to be dealt with" on any ground

TOTAL number of cases reported during the year	6	5	11
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III. No. of Mental Defectives in Institutions, under Community Care, including Voluntary Supervision or in "Places of safety" on 1st January, 1959, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1959.

	M.	F.	T.
(a) Ceased to be under care	—	—	—
(b) Died	1	1	2
(c) Removed from area	1	—	1
(d) Lost sight of	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	1	3

IV. Total number of children and adults receiving training.

	M.	F.	T.
(a) In Training Centre	21	10	31
(b) In Industrial Centres	41	47	88
(c) In Creche	12	6	18
TOTAL	74	63	137

These figures include cases which have been admitted to the centres voluntarily and without formal notification.

SECTION IV

GENERAL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES

PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES AND SUPPLEMENTARY OPHTHALMIC SERVICES

Oldham Executive Council

The Oldham Executive Council consists of a Chairman (Mr. A. C. C. Robertson, O.B.E., J.P.) and 24 other members who hold office for a period of three years, 8 being appointed by the Oldham Health Authority. Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P., Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P., and Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P., were re-appointed. The following have been appointed as representatives of the Local Health Authority:—

Councillor J. Bradley, J.P.
Councillor J. H. Broadbent
(to retire 31st March, 1960)
Alderman F. B. Balson
Councillor W. Wheeler
Dr. J. T. Chalmers Keddie
(to retire 31st March, 1961)
Alderman S. T. Marron, J.P., F.C.C.S.
Councillor A. Tweedale, J.P.
Alderman Miss A. A. Kenyon, J.P.
(to retire 31st March, 1962)

I am indebted to Mr. F. W. Chapple, Clerk of the Council, for the information contained in the following report which relates to the year ended 31st March, 1960.

General Medical Services

The number of patients registered on doctors' lists was 118,428 at 31st March, 1959, and 117,424 at 31st March, 1960. These figures compare with the Registrar General's estimated population for mid-June of 117,800. All doctors practising in the County Borough are in the Scheme and at the 31st March, 1960, there were 101 principal medical practitioners on the Council's medical list, of whom 50 were regarded as resident in the area, in addition 2 assistant medical practitioners were employed. In the previous year there were 100 on the Council's medical list, 51 being regarded as resident in the area and 49 in the adjacent districts. The average number of patients on the lists of doctors regarded as resident in Oldham was estimated to be 2,626 compared with 2,639 for the previous year.

At the end of the year there were 90 General Medical Practitioner/Obstetricians on the Council's Obstetric List, a decrease of 2 on the previous year.

Pharmaceutical Services

All the pharmaceutical firms and suppliers of surgical appliances in the Borough are in the Scheme and at the end of the year there were 52 firms, including 9 surgical appliance suppliers, a decrease of 1 on the previous year, providing services as follows:—

Pharmacies in the area	43
Drug Stores	Nil
Surgical Appliance Suppliers	9

Dental Services

All the dentists in the area provide dental services under the Scheme. At the end of the year, 24 dentists (including one assistant), the same number as the previous year, were on the dental list, 19, including one assistant being regarded as resident in the area.

Ophthalmic Services

The Supplementary Ophthalmic Treatment Regulations provide for patients who have obtained the necessary certificate from their medical practitioner to attend either an ophthalmic practitioner or an ophthalmic optician for eye testing and to have the required spectacles dispensed by an ophthalmic optician or a dispensing optician.

At the end of the year 1 ophthalmic medical practitioner, 22 ophthalmic opticians, and 2 dispensing opticians were providing optical services. At the end of the previous year, 2 ophthalmic medical practitioners and 25 ophthalmic opticians were providing optical services.

Finance

Under the National Health Service Act, 1951, patients are requested to pay certain charges for the provision of dentures and optical appliances, and under the National Health Service Act, 1952, further charges were imposed for dental treatment and for drugs and appliances supplied to patients. In cases of hardship application can be made to the National Assistance Board for the charge to be refunded. These charges are payable to the dentists, opticians and chemists on application for treatment, supply of glasses, or the making-up of prescriptions.

The financial year of the Executive Council ends on the 31st March, and for the year ended 31st March, 1960, the expenditure totalled £462,297 which compares with £441,033 for the year ended 31st March, 1959.

The following is an abstract of payments made by the Executive Council under the respective heads for the periods stated. They do not include amounts received from the members of the public, which are paid to dentists, opticians and chemists:—

	1959-1960	1958-1959
Doctors:	£	£
(a) General Medical Services	152,345	155,662
(b) Maternity Services	9,001	7,287
Chemists	192,483	176,970
Dentists	60,562	58,718
Ophthalmic	38,936	34,334
Administration	8,970	8,062

The following amounts were received from members of the public (patients) for dental, ophthalmic and pharmaceutical services:—

	1959-1960	1958-1959
	£	£
General Dental Services	18,256	18,236
Supplementary Ophthalmic Services	19,214	17,511
Pharmaceutical Services	39,001	37,784
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	£76,471	£73,531
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The payments to doctors only relate to Oldham patients on their lists. In the case of dentists, chemists and opticians, payment is for services rendered at their surgeries or places of business, e.g., an Oldham chemist is paid by the Oldham Executive Council for ALL prescriptions dispensed by him whether they are on Oldham, Lancashire, West Riding, Manchester or any other Executive Council forms. Many patients in the adjacent districts avail themselves of the pharmaceutical and optical facilities which have been developed by a number of progressive Oldham firms and this is reflected in the payments for these services by the Oldham Executive Council.

SECTION V

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**General**

Scarlet fever was mildly prevalent during the first six months of the year, and of the 171 cases which occurred, 113 were notified during these months. During the first few months of the year measles was rampant. This was the continuation of the epidemic which started in June of the previous year and continued into April.

There was a low incidence of dysentery, and of the 159 cases which occurred, 73 were notified in December, starting an epidemic which continued into the new year.

Diphtheria

No cases were notified and no deaths registered. Diphtheria last occurred in 1950 when 1 case was notified and confirmed.

Scarlet Fever

There were 171 cases notified compared with 143 in the previous year. No deaths were registered.

Erysipelas

There were 7 cases notified compared with 12 in the previous year. Of the 7 cases notified, 4 occurred in persons 45 years of age and over.

No deaths were registered.

Enteric Fever

(a) Typhoid fever: No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

(b) Para-typhoid fever B: Two cases were notified and confirmed, details of these cases are given below:—

Case No. 1 (J.C.) In August one case was notified and confirmed. This was a male aged 20 years and the diagnosis was confirmed by positive blood culture and positive Widal reaction. The organisms were phage type 3 A. The patient was severely ill and complications developed but he was discharged from hospital recovered. The source of infection was not ascertained.

Case No. 2 (D.D.) This was a male aged 24 years residing in Chadderton, who was admitted to Oldham and District General Hospital on the 3rd September and transferred to Westhulme Hospital on the 7th September. The patient had all the clinical features of para-typhoid fever and this was confirmed by a positive Widal reaction. Several specimens of the faeces were taken and all were negative so it was not possible to ascertain the phage type. The patient was moderately ill and made a complete recovery.

During August and September, scattered cases of para-typhoid fever B occurred in the adjacent districts of Manchester, Chadderton and Middleton and other parts of Lancashire. A number of these cases were

phage type 3 A. In spite of intensive inquiry and investigation, no association could be established between the two locally notified cases and those occurring in the adjacent districts.

The last cases of enteric fever in the Borough occurred in 1955 when one case of typhoid fever and three cases of para-typhoid fever B were notified.

Meningococcal Infection

There were 5 cases of meningococcal infection notified, 4 meningococcal meningitis and 1 meningococcal septicaemia. The meningococcal organism was isolated in each case.

No deaths were registered.

Acute Encephalitis

One case was notified, a male aged 6 years. He made a complete recovery.

No deaths were registered.

Acute Primary Pneumonia

There were 23 cases notified and 9 deaths registered. These 9 deaths were brought to notice on the Registrar's returns and the cases were not notified.

Influenza and Influenzal Pneumonia

There were 29 cases of influenzal pneumonia notified and 19 deaths registered. Of these deaths 11 were brought to notice on the Registrar's returns and these cases were not notified.

There were 2 deaths registered as due to influenza.

Measles

There were 1,175 cases notified compared with 887 in the previous year. During the first 6 months of the year the disease had a very high incidence which was a continuation of the epidemic of the previous year.

No deaths were registered.

Whooping Cough

There were 75 cases notified compared with 64 in the previous year. Of the 75 cases notified, 6 had received a full course of whooping cough immunisation and these were classified as follows:—

Severe	0
Moderate	0
Mild	6
	<hr/>
	6
	<hr/>

It is interesting to record that one of the immunised children, a boy aged 11 years, had received a full course of diphtheria-pertussis prophylactic before the age of one year. He had received no reinforcing dose and this case well illustrates the value of the reinforcing dose.

No deaths were registered.

Dysentery

During the year 159 cases were notified (151 *Sonné*, 8 no organism isolated). Most of these cases occurred during the last 3 months of the year, 73 occurring in December. There were no major outbreaks in schools.

No deaths were registered.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

During the year 12 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified. These were kept under observation and in no case was vision impaired.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 31 cases of puerperal pyrexia notified as follows:—

Oldham and District General Hospital	24
Woodfield Maternity Home	3
Domiciliary	4

Smallpox

No cases were notified and no deaths registered.

Acute Poliomyelitis

There were 2 cases (2 paralytic, 0 non-paralytic) notified and confirmed. No child or adult who had been vaccinated with poliomyelitis vaccine developed the disease.

No deaths were registered as due to poliomyelitis.

The following details relate to the cases notified:—

Paralytic

Case No. 1 (T.T.) A male aged 2 years 10 months was admitted to Westhulme Hospital on the 23rd May with paralysis of the muscles of the left side of the face and difficulty in swallowing. Poliovirus (type III) was isolated from the faeces. He was discharged with a slight residual paralysis of the face but has since made a complete recovery.

Case No. 2 (A.O.) A male aged 6 months was admitted to Oldham and District General Hospital on the 26th July and was transferred to Monsall Hospital the following day. Examination of the faeces failed to isolate poliovirus. A diagnosis of bulbar poliomyelitis was made. He was subsequently discharged, fully recovered.

Non-Paralytic

No cases were notified or brought to notice.

Malaria

No cases were brought to notice.

Glandular Fever

No cases were brought to notice.

Other Diseases

No cases of cholera, anthrax, undulant fever or typhus fever were brought to notice.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF CERTAIN DISEASES NOTIFIED AND THE DEATHS REGISTERED FROM THESE DISEASES DURING THE SEVERAL MONTHS OF THE YEAR.

Months	Measles		Scarlet Fever		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Meningococcal Infections		Acute Poliomyelitis		Whooping Cough		Erysipelas		Acute Primary Pneumonia		Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Paralytic	Non-Paralytic	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Jan.	342	...	23	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	...	2	...	3	...	4	1
Feb.	384	...	18	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	5	1	12	13
March	196	...	29	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	6	...	2	...	5	1	10	5
April	113	...	17	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	1	1	1	...
May	44	...	13	...	9	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	7	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
June	52	...	13	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	23	...	7	...	12	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Aug.	16	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	4	1	...	...
Sept.	3	...	8	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Oct.	1	...	17	...	29	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Nov.	...	...	12	...	21	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...
Dec.	1	...	11	...	73	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Totals	1175	...	171	...	159	...	17	...	5	...	2	...	75	...	7	...	23	9	29	19

Smallpox	None	Puerperal Pyrexia	31 cases.
Typhoid	None	Epidemic Encephalitis	None
Para-Typhoid	2 cases. No deaths.	Encephalitis-Lethargica)	None
		Diphtheria	None

Table Showing Cases of Infectious Disease Notified and Deaths Registered during the Year

Notifiable Disease	Number of cases notified.	Receiving hospital treatment	Number of deaths	Notification in Age Groups									
				Under 1.	1 and under 3.	3 and under 5.	5 and under 10.	10 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	171	18	...	1	16	52	80	19	1	1	1	...	...
Whooping Cough	75	4	...	14	14	14	26	6	...	1	...	...	...
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	1175	4	...	47	398	410	309	6	5	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia—Primary	23	...	9	1	1	2	2	1	...	2	11	3	...
Influenzal	29	10	19	2	3	3	1	...	1	2	9	8	...
Meningococcal Infection ...	5	5	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis—													
Paralytic	2	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Paralytic ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis—													
Infective ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post Infective	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	159	3	...	10	39	33	34	6	9	20	6	2	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	12	1	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	31	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	16	...	...	...
Para-Typhoid Fever	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever—Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	17	4	...	1	3	2	1	3	2	3	1	1	...
Erysipelas	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	2	...
Respiratory Tuberculosis	55	*30	13	...	...	1	2	1	11	23	12	5	...
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...
Totals	1767	113	43	92	476	517	457	42	47	73	42	21	...

* Notified Cases.

Food Poisoning

In all cases of food poisoning or suspected food poisoning, full enquiries are made to ascertain the source of infection. If any suspected food is available, samples are submitted for bacteriological examination.

During the year 22 cases were brought to notice, 17 being formally notified and 5 being ascertained following enquiry and investigation. Of the 22 cases 11 were associated with three “family” outbreaks and 11 were individual cases.

In 21 of the notified and ascertained cases the following organisms were isolated:—

Salm. typhi-murium	12
Salm. anatum	1
Salm. enteritidis	1
Salm. heidelberg	3
Salm. thompson	4

The following details relate to the three outbreaks. Full investigations failed to establish the sources of infection :—

A girl aged 9 years was notified as suffering from food poisoning. Three other cases in the same family were ascertained and subsequently notified—a boy aged 14 years, a girl aged 4 years and an infant aged 1 year. *Salm. typhi-murium* were isolated from the faeces in all cases.

A girl aged 2 years and her brother aged 5 months were notified as suffering from food poisoning and a further case, the mother aged 22 years, was ascertained. *Salm. heidelberg* were isolated from the faeces in all cases.

A girl aged 12 years was notified as suffering from food poisoning and 3 other cases in the same family were ascertained; the mother aged 36 years, the father aged 48 years and son aged 2 years. *Salm. thompson* were isolated from the faeces in all cases.

In 10 of the 11 individual cases, the following organisms were isolated :—

<i>Salm. typhi-murium</i>	8
<i>Salm. anatum</i>	1
<i>Salm. enteritidis</i>	1

TUBERCULOSIS

There was no change in the Tuberculosis Service provided for the Borough. Out-patient diagnosis and preventive work is carried out at the Central Chest Clinic, Oldham and District General Hospital, and in-patient treatment is provided at Strinesdale Hospital and other hospitals and sanatoria outside the Borough.

Deaths

The number of deaths registered 15 (13 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary) gives a rate per thousand of the population of 0.13 (0.11 pulmonary and 0.02 non-pulmonary) compared with 12 (11 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary) and a rate of 0.10 (0.09 pulmonary and 0.01 non-pulmonary) for the previous year.

The Tuberculosis Register

The number of accepted cases on the Register at the 31st December was 689.

During the year 74 cases were removed for the following reasons :—

1. Recovered	37	or 50.00% of total removals
2. Removal out	16	
3. Not desiring further treatment	1	or 27.03% of total removals
4. Lost sight of	—	
5. Diagnosis not confirmed	3	or 22.97% of total removals
6. Died	17	

Of the 37 recovered cases, 31 were pulmonary.

Of the 17 cases that died, 8 (all pulmonary) died from causes other than tuberculosis.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

New Cases

There were 57 new cases placed on the Register compared with 49 for the previous year.

R.A.1.	(Early cases, sputum negative or absent)	17
R.A.2.	(Intermediate cases, sputum negative or absent)	9
R.A.3.	(Advanced cases, sputum negative or absent) ...	1
R.B.1.	(Early cases, sputum positive)	6
R.B.2.	(Intermediate cases, sputum positive)	16
R.B.3.	(Advanced cases, sputum positive)	8

Deaths

During the year, 13 patients, including 3 cases notified posthumously and 1 coming to notice through the Registrar's returns, the certificate for which was signed by the Coroner without inquest, died from pulmonary tuberculosis, compared with 11 in the previous year. This represents a death rate of 0.13 per thousand of the population and compares with 0.09 for the previous year.

In addition, 8 pulmonary cases died from causes other than tuberculosis.

Of these 13 deaths, 5 or 38.46 per cent had been notified more than five years; 3 or 23.08 per cent had been notified three to five years; and 1 or 7.69 per cent died within one to three years after notification. The remaining 4 or 30.77 per cent escaped statutory notification, 3 being notified posthumously and one coming to notice through the Registrar's returns. Thus of the 13 patients dying during the year, 8 or 61.54 per cent died within five years of coming to notice.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

New Cases

There were 3 new cases placed on the Register during the year compared with 14 for the previous year. The following table shows the localisation of the disease in these cases :—

Meninges	1
Generalised	2
	—
	3
	—

During the year 2 cases were removed from the Register and placed on the Register of Pulmonary Cases.

Deaths

There were 2 deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis registered during the year. This represents a death rate of 0.02 per thousand of the population. The causes of death stated on the death certificates were:—

- (1) I (a) Tuberculous Meningitis.
- (2) *I (a) Cardiac failure.
 - (b) Paraplegia.
 - (c) Pott's Disease Dorsal Spine.
- II Pyelitis.

* This case came to notice through the Registrar General and was an inward transferable death.

Summary of New Cases and Deaths During the Year

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.
0 to 1 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 5 ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 to 10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
10 to 15 ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 to 20 ... ..	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 to 25	5	4	...	1	...	...	...	...
25 to 35	8	2	...	1	...	1	...	...
35 to 45	9	6	1	...	...	1	...	...
45 to 55	5	2	...	...	2	...	...	...
55 to 65	5	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
65 plus	3	2	...	...	3	2	1	...
Totals	37	20	1	2	9	4	1	1

1959	57	...	3	...	13	...	2
1958	49	...	14	...	11	...	1
1957	67	...	6	...	13	...	—
1956	98	...	11	...	15	...	4

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis.														
Age Periods	0 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75	75 & upwards	Total (all ages)
Pulmonary Males	2	...	...	5	7	6	4	3	1	36	
Females	1	...	1	1	5	5	2	...	2	...	19	
Non-Pulmonary Males	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Females	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	
TOTALS	1	2	1	1	11	13	8	4	5	1	58	

Part II—New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification.

Supplemental Return.

Age Periods	0—1	1—2	2—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—75	75 and up.	Total (all ages)
Pulmonary Males	1	1	...	1	3
Females	1	...	1
Non-Pulmonary Males...	1	...	1
Females
TOTALS	1	1	1	2	1	5

Source of Information	No. of Cases	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns from Local Registrars	1	...
Transferable Deaths from Registrar General	...	1
Posthumous Notifications	3	...
	4	1
	TOTALS...	

SANATORIUM AND HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

The following table gives details of notifications received on Forms I and II of admissions to, and discharges from, hospitals and sanatoria, of persons suffering from tuberculosis and the deaths occurring therein.

TABLE I. PULMONARY CASES.

	Admissions			Discharges			Deaths		
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
Strinesdale Hospital ...	27	26	...	28	20	...	1	1	...
Wrightington Hospital...	2	3	2	...	3	3	...	...	...
Chadderton Pulmonary Hospital ...	10	...	...	8	...	...	3	...	...
Crossley Hospital, Nr. Frodsham ...	2	1

TABLE II. NON-PULMONARY CASES.

Wrightington Hospital...	1	4	...	1
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CANCER

The number of deaths attributed to cancer shows a decrease of 13 compared with 1958.

The figures for the last six years are as follows:—

1954	.....	285
1955	.....	290
1956	.....	277
1957	.....	298
1958	.....	283
1959	.....	270

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons who were certified as dying from cancer during the year:—

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0-15	—	—	—
15-25	—	—	—
25-35	3	2	5
35-45	6	2	8
45-55	24	16	40
55-65	40	29	69
65-75	41	44	85
75+	32	31	63
Totals ...	146	124	270

Localisation of the Disease

(Classified in accordance with the Manual of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death).

Malignant Neoplasm of Buccal Cavity and Pharynx (140-148)

(140) Lip	—
(141) Tongue	2
(142) Salivary Gland	—
(143) Floor of Mouth	—
(144) Other parts of mouth and mouth unspecified	—
(145) Oral mesopharynx	—
(146) Nasopharynx	—
(147) Hypopharynx	—
(148) Pharynx unspecified	1

Malignant Neoplasm of Digestive Organs and Peritoneum (150-159)

(150) Oesophagus	6
(151) Stomach	56
(152) Small intestine, including duodenum	2
(153) Large intestine, except rectum	25
(154) Rectum	17
(155) Biliary passages and of liver (stated to be primary site)	2
(156) Liver (secondary and unspecified)	1
(157) Pancreas	13
(158) Peritoneum	1
(159) Unspecified digestive organs	—

Malignant Neoplasm of Respiratory System (160-165)

(160) Nose, nasal cavities, middle ear and accessory sinuses	—
(161) Larynx	2
(162) Trachea, and of bronchus and lung specified as primary	4
(163) Lung and bronchus, unspecified as to whether primary or secondary	38
(164) Mediastinum	—
(165) Thoracic organs (secondary)	—

Malignant Neoplasm of Breast and Genito-Urinary Organs (170-181)

(170) Breast	25
(171) Cervix uteri	11
(172) Corpus uteri	2
(173) Other parts of uterus, including chorionepithelioma	—
(174) Uterus, unspecified	6
(175) Ovary, fallopian tube and broad ligament	6
(176) Other and unspecified female genital organs	—
(177) Prostate	9
(178) Testis	—
(179) Other and unspecified male genital organs	1
(180) Kidney	4
(181) Bladder and other urinary organs	8

Malignant Neoplasm of other and Unspecified Sites (190-199)

(190) Skin (melanoma)	—
(191) Skin	1
(192) Eye	1
(193) Brain and other parts of nervous system	2
(194) Thyroid gland	—
(195) Other endocrine glands	—
(196) Bone	2
(197) Connective tissue	—
(198) Lymph nodes (secondary and unspecified)	1
(199) Other and unspecified sites	7

Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Hæmatopoietic Tissues (200-205)

(200) Lymphosarcoma and Reticulosarcoma	—
(201) Hodgkin's disease	1
(202) Other forms of lymphoma (reticulosis)	2
(203) Multiple myeloma (plasmocytoma)	1
(204) Leukaemia and aleukaemia	10
(205) Mycosis fungoides	—

The following two tables which give the age and sex distribution of deaths from cancer of the lung and bronchus for the years 1952 to 1959, inclusive, are of interest:—

	Year 1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Males ...	30	38	45	42	46	45	49	39
Females	2	11	5	6	11	11	8	3

Year	Sex	Age Groups							Totals
		15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75+	
1952	Males ...	—	—	2	3	12	11	2	30
	Females	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
1953	Males ...	—	—	1	6	9	15	7	38
	Females	—	—	—	1	3	6	1	11
1954	Males ...	—	1	3	8	17	14	2	45
	Females	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	5
1955	Males ...	—	—	—	7	18	13	4	42
	Females	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	6
1956	Males ...	—	1	1	7	18	17	2	46
	Females	—	—	—	—	5	4	2	11
1957	Males ...	—	1	—	7	19	13	5	45
	Females	—	—	—	1	5	3	2	11
1958	Males ...	—	—	—	13	12	19	5	49
	Females	—	1	—	2	1	1	3	8
1959	Males ...	—	1	2	8	15	9	4	39
	Females	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Total Males ...		—	4	9	59	120	111	31	334
Females		—	2	1	8	22	16	8	57
Grand Total ...		—	6	10	67	142	127	39	391

VENEREAL DISEASES

The following figures relate to Oldham patients attending for the first time at a treatment centre, and are extracted from records received from the Consultant Venerologist in charge of the Centre:—

	Oldham	Rochdale	Ashton
Syphilis	16	—	—
Gonorrhœa	65	4	1
Non-Venereal and Undiagnosed Conditions	105	1	1
Total	186	5	2

SECTION VI

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Waterworks Engineer and General Manager (Mr. C. Busfield) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

“During the year 1959, a constant supply of potable water, generally of a high standard of purity was maintained to all premises within the Department's area of supply, which are supplied through the Department's distribution system.

About 72,900 dwelling-houses are connected directly to this Department's mains within the Department's area of supply, and, so far as can be ascertained, no houses are now supplied from this Department's mains by means of common stand pipes. The estimated population within the Department's area of supply is 205,000.

The pH value of the water supplied from the Piethorne and Hanging Lees sources, which is unfiltered, varied between 6.0 and 7.4. The pH value of the water supplied from the Castleshaw source, which is filtered, ranged between 6.8 and 7.4 and the pH value of the water supplied from the Readycon Dean source, which is also filtered, varied between 7.4 and 8.7. Measures were taken as required to counteract occasional increases in the acidity of the water, but on three occasions the Analyst reported traces of lead, ranging from .4 to .5 parts per million.

The potable water from all sources is continually sterilised by the addition of chlorine and ammonia before passing into the distribution system, and water supplied for trade purposes from the Department's two reservoirs at Strinesdale is sterilised by the addition of chlorine.

Samples of water from each of the Corporation's four main sources of supply were submitted for examination for radioactivity in July, 1959.

The Analyst's Reports stated that the figures for Artificial radioactivity expressed as Strontium 90 are below the maximum figure quoted by the Medical Research Council for Water.

During the year samples of water collected at source were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination as follows:—

Reservoir	Chemical	Bacteriological	Remarks
Piethorne			
Raw Water	0	2	0 B.Coli per 100 ml.
		2	1-10 „ „
		3	11-50 „ „
		1	90 „ „
After Sterilisation ...	4	11	0 „ „
		7	1-10 „ „
Hanging Lees			
Raw Water	0	3	0 „ „
		—	1-10 „ „
		2	11-50 „ „
After Sterilisation ...	4	15	0 „ „
		1	1-10 „ „

Castleshaw

Raw Water	0	2	0	„	„
		—	1-10	„	„
		1	11-50	„	„
		1	90	„	„
After Sterilisation ...	4	12	0	„	„

Readycon Dean

Raw Water	0	1	0	„	„
		1	1-10	„	„
		2	11-50	„	„
After Sterilisation ...	4	12	0	„	„
		2	1-10	„	„

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

I am indebted to Mr. J. Taylor, the Sewage Works Manager, for the following report:—

“There are two sewage purification works under the Department, the main works being situated at Foxdenton, Chadderton, the other situated at Bardsley.

The treatment at the main works consists of the following:—

Detritus Tanks, Sedimentation Tanks, Activated Sludge Plant, Percolating Filters and Humus Tanks. Deposited sludge from the tanks is treated by Sludge Digestion.

The sewerage of the town is on the combined system, and the main works serves the whole of the County Borough, with the exception of the district of Bardsley, and also deals with the sewage from the adjoining districts of Lees and Springhead.

During the year the screens in the detritus tanks were renewed and grit removal in these tanks was satisfactory.

The low rainfall and good weather conditions which prevailed during the summer influenced the quantity and quality of the sewage received at the works, the volumes being lower and the sewage being stronger.

The sedimentation tanks gave good treatment to the sewage, the removal of raw sludge from these tanks is done by manual labour and at the present time this method is very primitive, and during the periods of emptying, the sludge can become very offensive. All reasonable steps are taken for example by the use of bleaching powder and by chlorination, to keep down any odour arising from the disposal of sludge but it is not always possible during the warmer months of the year, consequently occasional complaints are received from the surrounding householders. In the scheme of extensions now being considered mechanical de-sludging of these tanks will be adopted. Thousands of tons of sludge are removed from these tanks during a year and even after treatment in the sludge digestion tanks, the storage of all this sludge in the open air could on occasions be allegedly malodourous to certain people.

In the activated sludge plant, the purification was good throughout the year and since the introduction of the dome diffusers no difficulty has been found in keeping a well activated sludge provided adequate air was supplied. Some of the dome diffusers were taken out for cleaning and the best cleaning material on this occasion was found to be hot water.

Production of foam on the aeration tanks has varied considerably, there being long periods when very little foam was noticed, other occasions when the foam was excessive. The foam remained in the confines of the plant but its greasy residues are a nuisance on the walls and sidewalks.

The practice of treating the percolating filters with D.D.T. and Gammahexane was continued and periodically the filter walls were also treated.

No difficulties were experienced in treating the various trade effluents entering the sewerage system.

The River Purification Authority for the area is the Mersey River Board, the River Inspectors visited the works for samples of final effluents entering the river, all were classed as satisfactory.

The whole volume of raw sludge both primary and secondary was given full treatment in the heated sludge digestion plant; these are three in number, having a total capacity of 250,000 cubic feet, the sludge in the tanks being kept at an average temperature of 80 deg. F. Digestion continued fairly satisfactorily, the gas production was rather lower than normal due to one hot water boiler, used for keeping the temperature of the sludge at 80 deg. F., being taken out of circuit. One new boiler was installed during the year.

Owing to the dry weather experienced the digested sludge placed on the drying beds drained and caked very well and for the first time for some years the whole of the sludge drying beds could be emptied. Some of the total volume of sludge produced was again stored in lagoons, a far from ideal method.

40,000 tons of raw sludge equal to 16.40 tons per million gallons of sewage treated were removed from the settling tanks.

The total amount of sewage received for treatment during the year was 2,343,812,000 gallons which is equal to an average daily flow of 6,421,000 gallons.

The Bardsley Sewage Works gave satisfactory results. During the year the tender was let for the reconstruction of this Sewage Works."

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Director of Public Cleansing (Mr. I. L. Cooper) has kindly supplied the following particulars relating to the year 1959:—

"No ashpits remain in the Borough and all house refuse is temporarily stored in B.S.S. dustbins prior to collection by motor vehicles. 82.21 per cent of the refuse collection was disposed of by controlled tipping whilst the remainder was dealt with at the refuse disposal works at Gas Street,

A dustbin supply scheme, chargeable to the rates, was adopted by the Corporation in June, 1950, and from that date until 31st December, 1959, 40,329 B.S.S. dustbins have been supplied, 3,619 of which have been supplied during the current year.

The amount of salvage collected and disposed of was 1,305 tons which realised £8,844. An analysis of this figure is appended below:—

256 tons of paper which realised	£2,114
506 tons of baled tins which realised	£3,426
13 tons of scrap iron which realised	£55
2 tons of non-ferrous metals which realised	£213
1 ton of textiles which realised	£18
5 tons of bottles which realised	£19
522 tons of raw kitchen waste which realised	£2,999

171 sanitary pail closets still remain in the Borough and their conversion to the fresh water system by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor has been deferred until certain civil engineering difficulties have been overcome.

A scheme, whereby an allowance of 50 per cent of an approved estimate is granted to the owners of houses where a waste water closet has been converted to a fresh water closet, was inaugurated by the Corporation in December, 1951, and since that date, 5,453 waste-water closets have been converted, 806 being converted during the year.

There are 222 miles of streets and passages in the Borough cleansed as follows:—

Daily	27 miles
Twice weekly	140 miles
Less than once weekly	55 miles

Miles of streets cleansed (exclusive of footpaths) 25,077

Gully Cleansing

Number of gullies in the Borough	19,951
Number of cleansings during the year ...	54,680

The following figures indicate the amount of work done during the year:—

House and Trade Refuse Collection

Number of dustbins from which domestic refuse is collected each week	45,825
Number of domestic dustbins emptied	2,382,900
Tons of household refuse collected	33,649
Tons of shop refuse collected	1,348
Tons of trade refuse brought in by traders	2,341
Total tonnage of refuse disposed of	37,338
Tonnage disposed of by direct incineration at the Refuse Disposal Works	358
Tonnage disposed of by separation and incineration at the Refuse Disposal Works	6,284
Tons of Residue removed from Refuse Disposal Works to Corporation tips	2,899

Tonnage disposed of by controlled tipping at Corporation tips	30,696
Number of sanitary pails emptied	8,892
Number of loads of excreta disposed of	78

Waste Water Closets and Latrines

Blockages cleared (W.W.C.s)	3,412
Blockages cleared (Latrines)	1
Drains cleared	20
Drains found blocked, requiring excavating	141
Tippers found not working and re-adjusted	63
Tippers fittings, etc., found broken	569
New tippers, fittings, etc., fixed	511
Visits paid flushing latrines, etc.	6,180

Closet Accommodation

The total number and type of closets in the Borough at the end of the year were as follows:—

Fresh Water Closets	28,080
Waste Water Closets	17,978
Latrines:	
Houses	169
Mills	133
Pail Closets	171"

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

The General Superintendent of Baths and Wash-Houses (Mr. C. Murray) has kindly supplied the following particulars:—

"During the year ending 31st December, 1959, the water in the whole of the Corporation Swimming Baths has been maintained in accordance with the Ministry of Health maximum requirement with regard to marginal chlorination and maintenance of correct pH values.

At the Central, Hollinwood, Waterhead and Lowermoor Establishments, where the chlorinating apparatus is capable of dealing with the increased amount of chlorine necessary for the operation of the **Breakpoint Chlorination** technique, this method of sterilisation is used as an additional safeguard at peak periods.

At the Glodwick, Hathershaw and Hollinwood Baths where marginal chlorination only is operated, it is possible to carry a concentration of up to 1.0 p.p.m. of free chlorine without discomfort to bathers, providing the pH values are maintained in the region of 7.2 to 7.4, and these conditions are in operation particularly during the summer months as an additional safeguard.

During the year, the whole of the Baths and Wash-House premises and appurtenances have been maintained in a satisfactory hygienic condition. The swimming pool surrounds and all floors used by bathers are regularly cleaned with a solution of sodium hypo-chlorite, an effective sterilising agent, and a safeguard against infection,

Smoke Emission

I am pleased to be able to inform you that the whole of the boiler plants at the various establishments in the Baths and Wash-houses Department are now operating within the requirements of the Clean Air Act, as follows :—

- (a) The Lowermoor, Glodwick, Hathershaw and Robin Hill establishments are using coke as smokeless fuel.
- (b) The boiler plants at the Central, Hollinwood and Waterhead establishments are now equipped with modern mechanical stokers to enable coal to be used as boiler fuel, these stokers being approved appliances under the Clean Air Act."

GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION

To the Medical Officer of Health,

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1959.

During the year, Mr. N. H. Morton, Pupil Public Health Inspector, and Mr. A. Naylor, Clerk, were successful in obtaining the Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors' Examination Board and were immediately appointed as Public Health Inspectors. Mr. E. Aspin and Mr. J. Ineson were also appointed Public Health Inspectors.

I am pleased to report the success of Messrs. N. Lees, D. Whitehead, A. P. Mellor and F. Rushworth in obtaining the Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the Royal Society of Health and of Mr. D. J. Hamer in obtaining the Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the same Society.

I regret to record the death of Mr. H. Shaw, Specialist Meat Inspector. Mr. Shaw had been an Inspector with this Authority since January 1937.

Mr. J. McKenna was appointed Specialist Meat Inspector and Mr. F. Reynolds was appointed to the vacant post of Specialist Smoke Inspector. Messrs. H. Mousdell, D. J. Hamer and D. Whitehead, resigned their posts as Public Health Inspectors upon being offered similar appointments elsewhere.

The small number of new houses built in the past two years severely restricted the representation of slum clearance properties and during the year 131 houses in clearance areas and 37 individual unfit houses were represented.

In May two proposed smoke control areas and the Council's 5 year programme were submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government. The two areas were subsequently approved in principle and it is hoped that these will become operative during next year.

In February four volumetric apparatus for the measurement of atmospheric pollution were installed at the Derker, Fitton Hill, Hollinwood and Henshaw Secondary Modern Schools. These are operated under the supervision of the science masters and great interest has been shown in this venture.

During the year 5 Asian students who were studying at Manchester University were attached to the Department for a total of 12 days. Lectures were given to the students and visits were made with Public Health Inspectors.

Further comments under the various headings have been made in the report.

In conclusion, I am indebted to yourself for the willing help and co-operation I have received during the year and I must pay tribute to the whole of the staff for their efforts.

Yours respectfully,

HAROLD V. CASS,
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

Summary of Work Carried Out by Public Health Inspectors

During the year 10,941 visits and 1,102 re-visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with inspections under the various Acts:—

Inspections	Visits	Re-Visits	Total
Accumulations	98	7	105
Closets—Water	46	7	54
Waste Water	426	14	440
Pail	103	—	103
Drainage—Choked Drainage	399	91	490
Work in Progress	384	54	438
Drain Tests	280	35	315
Public Sewers	185	27	211
Water Supply	135	10	145
Entertainment Houses	5	3	8
Factories—Mechanical	102	92	194
Non-mechanical	19	11	30
Offices and Workplaces	13	12	25
Outworkers	12	—	12
Offensive Trades	7	—	7
Marine Stores	3	—	3
Keeping of Animals and Birds	9	—	9
Vermin (Public Health Act, 1936)	159	13	172
Yards and Courts	8	7	15
Interviews	873	7	880
No Access	1,527	55	1,582
Air Raid Shelters	149	1	150
Overcrowding	42	2	44
Common Lodging Houses	9	1	10
Houses Let in Lodgings	33	16	49
Rent Act, 1957	173	103	276
Tents, Vans, Sheds	38	19	57
Litter Act	12	—	12
Diseases of Animals Acts & Orders	50	—	50
Shops Act	225	157	382
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	298	68	366

Inspections	Visits	Re-visits	Total
Rag Flock Act	4	—	4
Fertilisers & Feeding Stuffs	11	—	11
Pet Animals Act	11	—	11
Clean Air Act—Interviews	167	—	167
Smoke Observations	52	—	52
Inspection of Steam			
Raising Plants	102	—	102
Smoke Control Area—			
Visits to Dwellings	167	—	167
Visits to Other Premises	30	—	30
Atmospheric Pollution Measurement	239	—	239
Miscellaneous	1,201	34	1,235
Food Premises			
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	174	17	191
Registration—Food Preparing Premises...	45	—	45
Ice Cream Premises	61	—	61
Slaughterhouses	676	7	683
Food Hygiene Regulations—Meat Shops	336	39	375
Restaurants and Cafes	102	98	200
Fishmongers	24	27	51
Grocers	174	6	280
Stalls and Markets	814	3	817
Fish and Chip Shops	51	10	61
Cold Stores	12	—	12
Others	45	2	47
Bakehouses—Mechanical	99	47	146
Non-mechanical	7	—	7
Milk—Dairies and Milkshops	16	—	16
Dealers and Distributors	19	—	19
Merchandise Marks Act	35	—	35
Egg Pasteurisation Plant	145	—	145
Infectious and other Diseases			
Inquiries—Infectious Diseases	168	—	168
Food Poisoning	131	—	131
Dysentery	1	—	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,941	1,102	12,143
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Summary of Action Taken and Work Done

Number of cases reported to Committee	1,560
Number of complaints received	2,390
Matters referred to other departments	692
Number of letters to owners, etc.	1,402
Disrepair	
Roofs repaired or renewed	122
Walls and chimneys repaired or rebuilt	79
Wall plaster repaired or renewed	73
Ceiling plaster repaired or renewed	41
Floors repaired or relaid	22
Windows repaired	92

Ventilation provided or improved	7
Ranges or fireplaces repaired, re-set or renewed	8
Staircase repaired or renewed	8
Handrails provided or repaired	1
Doors repaired	50
Food stores provided or altered	4
Washing accommodation provided or repaired	2
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	2
Contents of rooms cleansed or destroyed	3
Dampness remedied—Rising	9
Penetrating	7
Outbuilding repaired	16
Courts, yards and passages paved or re-paved	2
Cleansed	4
Obstructive buildings removed	3
Sanitary Defects	
Drainage—Cleansed	139
Repaired or altered	115
Reconstructed	6
Public Sewers—Cleansed	9
Repaired or altered	16
Reconstructed	—
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed, cleansed	90
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	51
—disconnected	7
Sinks renewed or provided	5
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	39
Water closets—Repaired	24
Cleansed	10
Waste Water Closets—Repaired	42
Cleansed	68
Closets converted to water closets—Latrine	12
Waste water	46
Other closets—Repaired	12
Cleansed	3
Water supply provided or improved	3
Miscellaneous	
Nuisances Abated—Accumulations	17
Animals and Birds	1
Information in Rent Book	69

Offensive Trades

At the beginning of the year there were 8 offensive trades carried on in the Borough. None was discontinued or commenced and at the end of the year the following offensive trades were being carried on in the Borough:—

Tripe Boilers	1
Marine Stores	5
Gut Scrapers	1
Hide and Skin Depot	1

There were 7 visits made to these premises during the year. No notices were served in respect of defects.

Common Lodging Houses

No new premises were registered during the year. There are 3 premises registered with accommodation for 47 men. No premises are registered for the accommodation of women.

Bakehouses

There were 291 bakehouses on the register at the beginning of the year. No premises were registered but one was discontinued, leaving 290 bakehouses on the register at the end of the year.

One basement bakehouse remains in use, the Council having renewed the certificate permitting its use for a further period of 5 years from the 1st October, 1959.

During the year 106 visits were paid to bakehouses. The majority of the premises are maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

The Public Health Act, 1936—Section 154

Legal proceedings were instituted for an offence against this Section of the Act (exchanging toys for rags). The defendant was fined £2 0s. 0d.

Abolition of Septic Tanks and Cess Pools in the Borough

During the year the abolition of septic tanks and cess pools in Alt Lane was carried out. These properties were formerly in the Limehurst Urban District and were included in the extension of the Oldham boundary in 1954. The private drainage system which had functioned for many years became troublesome and it was necessary to require the owners of the properties to dispense with the septic tanks and cess pools and connect them to the public sewer. In three instances the sewer was within the specified distance as laid down in the Public Health Act, whereby local authorities can require the owners to connect the drainage to the public sewer.

In another instance at Waymark and Holts Lane, Pitses, where pail closets, septic tanks and cess pools were in use, it was found necessary to provide a public sewer. Fresh Water Closet systems were provided in lieu of the pail closets, and the septic tanks and cess pools were abolished and the drainage connected to the public sewer.

As a result of the above work and alterations, the drainage of 37 houses was connected to the public sewer.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Smoke Control From Industrial Plants

It is pleasing to note that during the year, although 52 smoke observations were taken including 6 during which some dark and black smoke was emitted, it was not necessary to report that the plant of any firm had emitted smoke in such a quantity as to cause a contravention of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958.

This is adequate proof that the Department's policy in previous years in discussing the problem on an informal basis and the resultant extensive modifications and modernisations carried out at many firms has greatly

improved the situation in the Borough. During the year the following improvements and modernisations, etc., were effected at industrial and other premises :—

Chain grate stokers fitted to existing boilers	4 pairs
Coking stokers fitted to existing boilers	3 pairs
Existing boilers converted to oil firing	3
Boilers and industrial furnaces converted to coke fired	4
Plant electrified	2
Oil fired packaged boiler installation	1
Other oil fired new installations	6

Prior Approval of Industrial Furnaces

Of the 13 firms who carried out the above modifications and modernisations, 3 applied for "Prior Approval" of their proposed installations.

The plans and specifications submitted in each instance were for new oil fired boilers and were approved without modification and without the necessity to consult the Prior Approval Panel. The height of the proposed chimney in each case was sufficient to satisfy the provisions of Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956.

Smoke Control Areas

During the year the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requested that all Local Authorities in Black Areas should submit details of their plans for the establishment of Smoke Control Areas over the five year period, 1959—1964.

During June the Council's plans were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government indicating the intention to establish Smoke Control Areas covering 2,540 acres and involving 9,676 premises (including 9,554 dwellings) by the end of 1964.

Unfortunately, because of the high proportion of unfit property in the Borough, it is not practicable to extend the Areas much beyond this five year plan until such time as Compulsory Purchase or Clearance Orders are confirmed and the unfit property demolished. As areas are redeveloped and new property is planned, the Council will make Smoke Control Orders to cover them.

In June also the Council submitted preliminary proposals for the first two Smoke Control Areas.

(a) The Oldham No. 1 (Littlemoor Lane Redevelopment Area) Smoke Control Area.

This is an area covering 35 acres from which premises are being cleared and in which it is proposed to build 523 new dwellings, 6 shops and a school in addition to retaining 222 existing premises.

(b) The Oldham No. 2 (Fitton Hill Extension) Smoke Control Area.

This is an area covering 112 acres of open land in which it is proposed to build 889 new premises including 883 dwellings and the area will include a further 50 existing premises.

In July the Minister informed the Council that he could give provisional approval to the proposals. A detailed survey of the area was not commenced until the Smoke Inspector was appointed in October. By the end of the year the administrative procedure had been established and the detailed survey of the No. 1 area was in progress.

Atmospheric Pollution from Other Sources

Fume Emission from an Aluminium Foundry

Several complaints have been received regarding the emission of dense fumes from the foundry where aluminium ingots were melted down and cast into moulding trays for the baking industry. The nuisance was caused during the de-gassing of the molten aluminium prior to casting and from the emission of volatiles from the shell moulds as the aluminium is cast. Negotiations with the Management of the firm resulted in an improvement in the de-gassing and the furnace technique and additionally in the erection of a reasonably high stack so that fumes thus produced would be dispersed without causing a nuisance.

Investigation and Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

An annual contribution is made to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Medical Officer of Health represents the Authority at the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies, or in his absence, the Chief Public Health Inspector deputises for him.

During the year the measurement of atmospheric pollution was expanded by the installation of 4 volumetric instruments. The numbers and types of instruments now in use within the Borough are :—

British standard deposit gauges	2
Lead peroxide instruments	6
Volumetric apparatus	4

Volumetric apparatus was installed in the following secondary modern schools :—

Derker, Hollinwood, Henshaw's, Fitton Hill.

The arrangements stimulate an interest in clean air and atmospheric pollution amongst the scholars and the Department is indebted to the Director of Education and the staffs of the schools for their help and co-operation in the scheme.

The analyses obtained from all the instruments are published in the Atmospheric Pollution Bulletin of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and the results obtained are shown in the accompanying tables.

Lectures and Film Shows

A programme of lectures and film shows was arranged and during the year, 10 lectures and film shows were given to 586 persons.

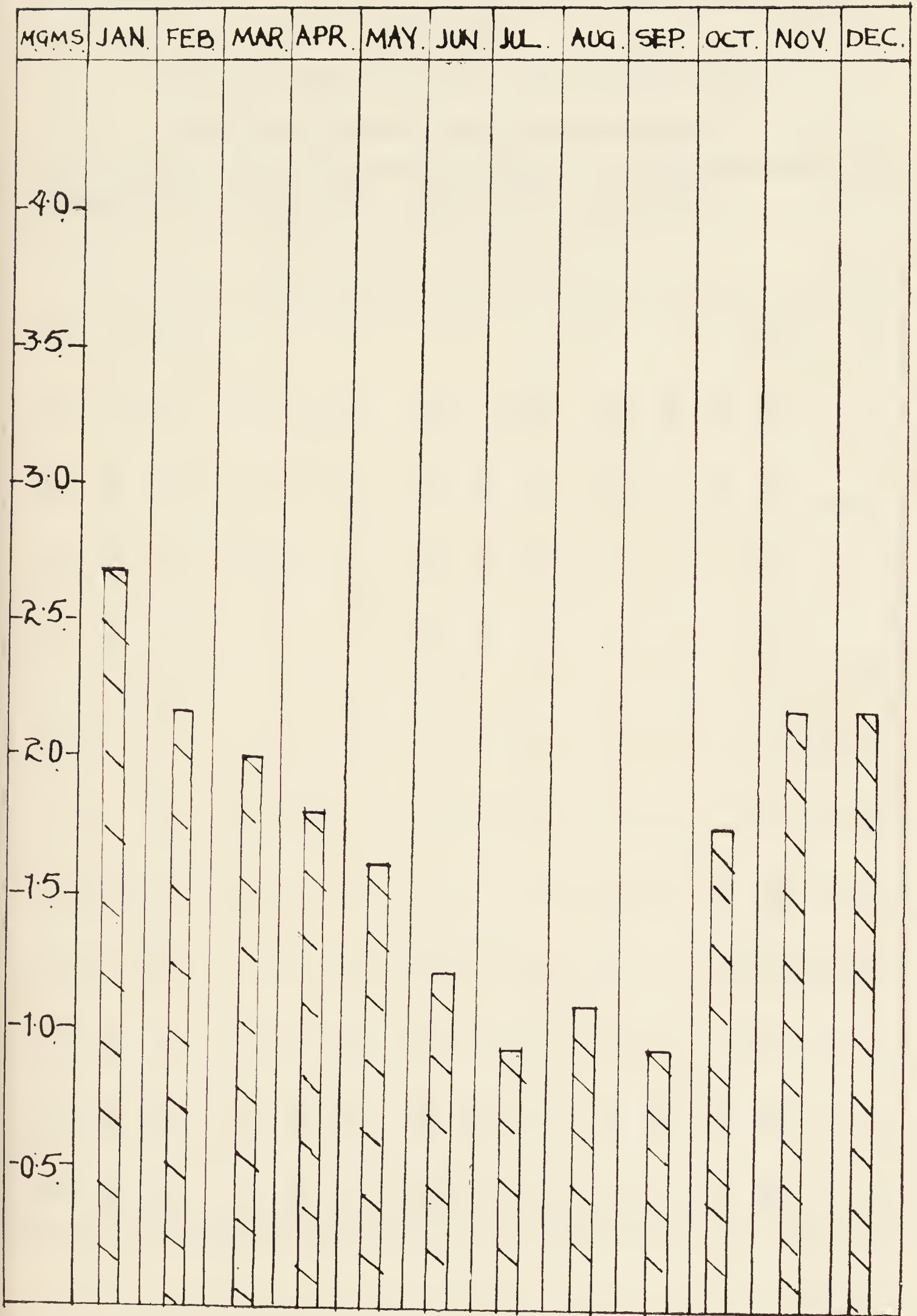
SULPHUR POLLUTION — LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD

Mgm. Sulphur Trioxide per 100 sq. cms. exposed surface per day

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
OLDHAM												
Alexandra Park	2.9	1.4	2.3	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.3	1.4	1.9
Haven Lane	3.0	1.3	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5	1.0	2.1	1.5	2.7
Horsedge Street	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.9	3.0	3.7
Westhulme Hospital	2.1	3.0	1.5	1.9	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.7	2.7	2.8
Westlands	3.2	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.4	2.4	2.3
Bank Top Farm	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.2	0.8	1.3	0.7	1.9	2.1	1.6
CHADDERTON												
Grammar School	5.7	4.5	3.7	2.7	1.8	2.1	1.5	1.7	2.2	3.1	4.5	4.7
Birch Avenue	3.7	3.0	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.5	2.5	2.5
CROMPTON												
Shaw, Croft Bank	3.4	2.9	1.9	1.6	1.2	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.7	2.3	2.9
Shaw, Home Farm	4.2	4.1	2.3	2.4	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.6	3.3	3.6
FAILSWORTH												
Highways Department	4.7	3.4	2.1	2.3	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.5	2.3	2.8	2.8
HYDE												
Birch House Yard	4.1	2.5	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.1	2.1
Reservoir	4.0	2.7	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.8	2.1	2.1
LEES												
Cemetery	3.0	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.8
MIDDLETON												
Thornham School	5.0	4.9	3.1	3.2	1.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.8	2.8	2.4	4.4
Town Hall	3.6	2.6	2.1	1.4	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.4	4.3	2.6
ROYTON												
Hanging Chadder Farm	4.9	4.1	2.8	2.5	2.1	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.9	2.9	3.6	3.6
Royton Park	3.7	3.6	2.5	2.1	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.7	2.7	3.1
STALYBRIDGE												
Brushes Filter House	2.5	1.7	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.7	Ceased at the end of July				
Health Centre	—	—	—	—	—	—	—					
ASHTON												
Lord Street Depot	5.2	4.0	3.0	2.7	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.4	2.5	3.6	3.4
Grasmere	3.5	2.5	2.0	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.7	2.0	2.2
Hartshead Pike	4.1	3.0	1.9	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.7	2.3	2.6	2.5
Jubilee Dingle	4.6	3.4	2.2	2.1	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.9	2.7	3.0
Limehurst Swge. Wks.	4.7	3.6	2.5	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.4	2.1	2.9	2.9
ROCHDALE												
Entwistle Road	2.5	2.3	1.5	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.1	1.5	1.9	1.5
Foxholes Hse., Rugby Rd.	3.9	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.5	1.1	1.7	2.1	1.5
Roch Mills Sewage Wks.	3.8	2.6	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.2	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.6	2.5	2.6
SADDLEWORTH												
Greenfield Sewage Wks.	1.3	2.1	1.1	1.7	0.9	0.5	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	2.3	2.0
MANCHESTER												
Rusholme	5.1	2.9	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.0	1.0	⊗	1.8	2.4	2.6
Withington	4.0	2.2	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0	⊗	2.0	1.7
Monsall	7.3	5.4	3.9	3.7	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.0	3.6	5.3	5.4
SALFORD												
Ladywell Sanatorium	6.5	4.7	3.3	3.5	2.4	⊗	2.0	1.7	2.8	3.4	4.5	5.4
Regent Road	5.5	6.6	4.0	4.4	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.2	3.2	4.0	6.2	6.0
STOCKPORT												
Cheadle Heath Sew. Wks	2.8	3.2	2.8	3.8	1.1	3.2	5.5	4.1	3.6	4.4	2.4	3.0
Cornbrook Chemical Co.	4.3	2.9	2.5	2.9	1.9	4.4	5.3	1.8	6.3	3.8	2.1	2.1

⊗ Post broken or cylinder damaged

MONTHLY AVERAGE OF ALL STATIONS



VOLUMETRIC APPARATUS

TABULAR SUMMARY SHOWING MINIMUM, MAXIMUM AND AVERAGE CONCENTRATIONS OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE FOR EACH STATION

Smoke Concentration (SM)—Mg. per 100 Cubic Metres

SO2 Concentration (SO2)—Parts per 100 Million

Station		Derker Sec. Mod. School			Henshaw Sec. Mod. School			Fitton Hill Sec. Mod. School			Hollinwood Sec. Mod. School		
Month		min. max. av.			min. max. av.			min. max. av.			min. max. av.		
JAN.	SM SO2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
FEB.	SM SO2	20 2.2	169 46.3	51 12.4	17 3.5	120 33.9	54 14.9	3 0.9	74 18.7	19 7.3	24 6.8	232 60.0	66 17.6
MAR.	SM SO2	13 2.3	66 17.0	33 7.4	14 3.2	58 19.2	27 8.1	2 0.2	25 7.8	8 3.0	5 2.9	48 21.4	20 11.3
APR.	SM SO2	9 1.9	55 17.9	22 6.01	6 2.8	57 27.2	23 9.1	1 0.8	19 14.5	7 2.5	10 4.9	61 19.4	28 9.3
MAY	SM SO2	8 0	41 13.3	17 5.1	4 1.9	38 18.2	15 5.8	1 0.1	12 3.7	3 1.82	5 2.6	40 12.9	18 5.5
JUNE	SM SO2	4 1.2	21 6.7	11 3.2	4 2.0	23 11.8	11 5.1	1 0.3	5 4.0	2 1.4	5 1.7	22 6.6	11 4.3
JULY	SM SO2	3 1.0	14 4.7	9 2.7	2 2.3	26 10.2	11 4.2	1 0.7	11 8.0	4 2.1	2 2.1	15 8.7	9 4.4
AUG.	SM SO2	5 1.7	20 5.8	9 3.1	5 1.6	17 7.3	10 3.6	2 1.2	9 8.3	4 2.6	3 1.5	14 10.2	8 4.0
SEPT.	SM SO2	8 1.7	37 7.3	14 3.25	9 2.3	49 11.8	23 6.7	1 0.9	22 17.8	8 4.4	6 1.2	39 14.5	16 5.34
OCT.	SM SO2	6 1.4	27 8.5	10 3.1	15 4.0	112 20.4	41 12.2	2 0.9	28 14.0	10 5.3	7 4.1	51 26.1	19 10.6
NOV.	SM SO2	13 1.4	79 15.2	29 7.1	14 6.4	90 20.9	38 12.0	9 0.9	117 10.1	46 4.6	18 5.9	127 25.9	42 14.1
DEC.	SM SO2	7 1.7	50 10.1	21 5.2	12 6.3	101 28.1	38 10.7	5 1.2	49 10.8	21 4.9	12 4.6	116 28.4	44 10.9

Estimation of Atmospheric Deposit
(By British Standard Deposit Gauge)

The accompanying table shows the monthly analysis of the pollution deposited in the one standard deposit gauge, which is situated in Werneth Park. The figures can be taken as a fair indication of the amount of pollution deposited in that area, or say an area having a radius of approximately half a mile. The figures cannot be taken to represent the amount of pollution deposited throughout the Borough. The amount of pollution deposited in any gauge is dependent on many factors, the chief of these being wind direction and rainfall. An examination of the mean monthly figures over the past 5 years indicates a reduction in the water insoluble matter deposited from 9.90 to 7.94 tons per square mile. This reduction is small but the steady fall is encouraging.

The deposit insoluble matter can be assumed to be of mainly local origin whilst the soluble matter may be made up of both local and "exotic" pollution.

ESTIMATION OF ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSIT
(By British Standard Deposit Gauge)

Table Indicates the Amount of Deposit in Tons per Square Mile over the Last Five Years

Month	1955				1956				1957				1958				1959			
	Rainfall Ins.	Water Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids	Rainfall Ins.	Water Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids	Rainfall Ins.	Water Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids	Rainfall Ins.	Water Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids	Rainfall Ins.	Water Insoluble Matter	Water Soluble Matter	Total Solids
Jan.	2.52	8.63	6.53	15.16	4.93	11.44	7.37	18.81	3.39	9.84	5.90	15.74	4.92	11.47	8.97	20.44	2.83	6.87	16.88	23.75
Feb.	2.05	10.43	6.00	16.43	1.22	8.20	4.93	13.13	2.56	7.57	4.33	11.90	5.40	8.77	6.64	15.40	.39	4.10	2.60	6.70
Mar.	1.97	10.83	5.33	16.16	1.26	10.67	5.17	15.84	3.70	9.27	6.00	15.27	2.36	8.77	4.00	12.77	2.01	5.54	4.17	9.70
Apr.	2.17	7.50	5.23	12.73	3.07	9.17	6.80	15.97	0.55	12.64	3.07	15.71	1.19	6.70	3.34	10.04	2.94	11.84	3.80	15.64
May	3.51	11.50	6.57	18.07	1.89	26.28	5.44	*31.72	1.22	7.24	4.07	11.31	4.54	15.37	12.34	*27.71	1.50	9.97	3.10	13.07
June	3.23	10.50	5.47	15.97	3.86	8.94	5.27	14.21	2.48	10.23	4.70	14.93	4.12	10.14	9.60	19.74	3.07	10.74	7.60	18.34
July	1.02	8.56	2.60	11.16	4.53	7.07	14.94	22.01	4.45	8.97	6.94	15.91	4.64	7.90	4.80	12.71	3.19	10.21	7.00	17.21
Aug.	.90	10.04	3.37	13.41	11.20	14.04	11.57	25.61	5.24	10.10	8.84	18.94	6.08	6.47	11.00	17.47	.83	7.90	2.87	10.77
Sept.	2.48	10.50	5.50	16.00	3.39	8.94	4.83	13.77	6.70	9.67	7.80	17.47	4.74	9.90	6.14	16.04	.28	8.64	2.40	11.04
Oct.	2.05	9.37	7.07	16.44	3.03	8.64	6.87	15.51	4.92	8.04	6.40	14.44	3.81	6.14	6.40	12.54	3.90	13.31	7.10	20.41
Nov.	1.73	7.84	3.50	11.34	1.73	8.67	6.47	15.14	1.89	5.74	3.84	9.58	1.55	5.60	5.60	11.20	4.12	9.10	4.27	13.37
Dec.	5.08	13.14	11.17	24.31	3.47	9.64	5.47	15.11	2.68	8.97	5.90	14.87	4.12	5.90	9.07	14.97	5.36	7.24	8.30	15.54
Total	28.71	118.84	68.34	187.18	43.58	131.70	85.13	216.83	39.78	108.28	67.79	176.07	47.47	103.13	87.90	191.03	30.42	95.28	70.09	175.54

* This phenomenal rise is associated with some constructional works which were in progress near the site of the deposit gauge.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year 658 complaints of rat infestation were received and the results of investigations were as follows :—

Defective drainage	276
Stray rats	193
Mice	189

The Borough is included in the area of the South East Lancashire Advisory Committee and Councillor W. Wheeler and the Chief Public Health Inspector were appointed as representatives of the Health Committee to serve on the Committee for the ensuing year.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment

In November, 1958, a new method of sewer treatment was commenced in the Borough. This treatment is carried out by suspending a stockinette bag filled with pre-bait inside the manhole. On the second visit, recordings are taken of the amount of pre-bait taken and further pre-bait is laid if necessary. On the third visit zinc phosphide poison bait is suspended at points where takes have been recorded.

For the purpose of this treatment, the Borough has been divided into 71 areas with approximately 60 manholes in each area. The system is proving highly successful and during the year the following results were obtained :—

	1st Treatment	2nd Treatment
Number of manholes	4,378	4,378
Number of manholes baited	1,303	2,137
Number of manholes showing no take	649	962
Number of manholes showing pre-bait take ...	372	659
Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take	282	516

Baiting was carried out on the 1-4-8 basis. The bait base was sausage rusk and the preservative para-nitrophenol.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1959

In accordance with Section 128 of the Factories Act, 1937, the following particulars under Part I and Part VIII of that Act are submitted:—

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	N.Mech. 55	19	33 2	... informal
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	Mech. 641	102		formal ...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ... ..	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	696	121	35	...

II.—Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecution were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	6	...	5	6	...
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	8	1	...	3	...
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	59	59	...	11	...
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	1	14	...	...
TOTAL	78	61	19	20	...

In the cases where defects were found by H.M. Inspector of Factories, the necessary action was taken.

Outworkers

Four lists relating to 21 outworkers were received during the year relating to the manufacture of wearing apparel.

The Pet Animals Act, 1951

The Chief Public Health Inspector, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, one Assistant Public Health Inspector, and Mr. J. Sullivan M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Surgeon, are the appointed authorised officers for the purposes of inspection.

At the end of the year, 13 premises were licensed and 11 visits had been made under the Act during the year. All the premises were found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

Diseases of Animals Acts

The Chief Public Health Inspector is the Authorised Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts.

Foot and Mouth Disease

On the 8th December, Oldham was declared an infected area on account of foot and mouth disease which had been confirmed in an adjacent area. The restrictions were withdrawn on the 22nd December. It was necessary to issue 55 movement licences.

Swine Fever

There were two cases of suspected swine fever notified to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and in both cases swine fever was confirmed.

Oldham was included in the Swine Fever (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 2, 1959, which came into operation on the 6th September. This Order was made to reduce the risk of the further spread of the disease in the area. The Order prohibited the movement of swine into, out of and within the area except under licence and also prohibited the holding of store markets. The restrictions were withdrawn on the 7th December. It was necessary to issue 97 movement licences.

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

At the beginning of the year 7 premises were licensed for the operation of plant and equipment. During the year one new application was received, leaving 8 premises licensed at the end of the year.

Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926

There were 13 samples of feeding stuffs sent for examination under the provisions of the Act, and all were reported to be satisfactory. There were 11 visits made under the Act.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No new premises were registered or licensed during the year. In one case the upholstering business was discontinued.

The following particulars refer to premises registered and licensed at the end of the year:—

Registered Premises:

(a) for manufacture of bedding	2
(b) for upholstering	3

Licensed Premises:

(a) for manufacture of rag flock	0
(b) for storage of rag flock	1

There were 4 visits made under the above Act.

There were 7 samples of rag flock and other filling materials taken during the year and all conformed with the regulation.

SECTION VII

HOUSING

The following are details of the returns of demolition, closing and repair of houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts, made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in accordance with Circular 48/55:—

1. **Inspection of Dwellinghouses During the Year**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	3,002
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	4,827
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	1,233
(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose	2,079

2. **Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notices**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	759
---	-----

3. **Action Under Statutory Powers During the Year**(A) **PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:**

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	27
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	17

(B) **PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:**

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	217
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	129
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	64

(C) **PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 16 AND 23 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:**

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	29
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	57

(D) **PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1957:**

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Slum Clearance Programme

The Slum Clearance Programme of the Council was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1955/1956 and provided for the demolition of 1,150 houses by the 31st July, 1960.

The following is a summary of unfit houses demolished under slum clearance and by voluntary action during the years 1943/1959 :—

	1943/1958	1959	Totals
Individual unfit houses	870	57	927
Houses in clearance areas ...	2	166	168
Voluntary demolitions	233	7	240
Totals	1,105	230	1,335

SLUM CLEARANCE

Individual Unfit Houses

There were 37 houses represented. Demolition orders were made in respect of 29 houses and closing orders were made in respect of 2 houses. This involved the displacement of 20 families, totalling 61 persons.

In 6 cases, details of ownership were not completed and it was, therefore, not possible to arrange for the Housing Committee to give consideration to these properties before the end of the year.

The following is a summary of the individual houses dealt with during the years 1943 to 1959 :—

Year	Houses represented	No. of families	No. of persons	Position as at 31st Dec., 1959					
				Houses Vacated or Empty	Persons Rehoused		Total No. of persons awaiting re-hous'g	Houses Demolished	Total No. of Houses awaiting demolition
					By Corporation	By Own arrangements			
1943 to									
*1954	322	310	976	321	841	135	...	310	...
†1955	200	184	510	199	412	97	1	176	2
x1956	216	204	615	216	505	110	...	205	1
‡1957	182	169	408	176	314	82	12	166	6
**1958	75	63	182	50	151	31	...	70	...
††1959	37	24	76	16	4	...	72	...	35

* In 15 cases the houses were demolished before Demolition Orders could be made by the Council. In the case of one house the representation was not accepted. In 9 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 10 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and one of these was subsequently demolished. Undertakings under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936, were accepted in respect of 3 houses.

- † In 12 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 10 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and one of these was subsequently demolished. Undertakings were accepted under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of 16 houses, and 5 of these were subsequently demolished.
- x In 10 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 10 (1) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and one of these was subsequently demolished. In one case the making of a Demolition Order was deferred.
- ‡ In 5 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, and one of these was subsequently demolished. In six cases the making of Demolition Orders was deferred.
- ** In 5 cases undertakings were accepted under Section 16 (4) of the Housing Act, 1957.
In 1 case the house was demolished before a Demolition Order could be made by the Council.
- †† In 2 cases Closing Orders were made under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957.

The following table summarises the properties dealt with during the years 1943/59 :—

	1943/57	1958	1959
No. of individual houses represented	920	75	37
No. of Demolition Orders made	749	153	29
No. of Closing Orders made	33	3	2
No. of undertakings accepted	26	5	—
No. of houses demolished voluntarily	15	1	—
Other demolitions	1	—	—
Representation not accepted	1	—	—
Consideration of Order deferred	2	6	—
Representation not yet considered	—	—	6

Clearance Areas

During the year the Hobson Street and Hollinwood Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Clearance Areas were represented and these were subsequently included in the Compulsory Purchase Orders.

The following are details of the properties and populations included in the clearance areas and the Compulsory Purchase Orders :—

	Houses	Combined Houses & Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Popula- tion	No. of Families
Within the Clearance Areas	130	1	—	131	299	132
Outside the Clearance Areas	10	1	8	19	33	14
Total ...	140	2	8	150	332	146

Clearance Orders

The following clearance orders were confirmed during the year and these are fully detailed in Table 1.

Greenacres Road Clearance Order

There were no objections to the Greenacres Road Clearance Order and this was confirmed with modifications on the 12th January. Mr. G. Swayne Thomas, an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, visited the properties on the 20th November, 1958. The properties numbered 1 to 9 inclusive were excluded from the Order. These properties had been demolished prior to the making of the Order.

Derker Street Compulsory Purchase Order

There were no objections to the Derker Street Clearance Order and this was confirmed without modification on the 8th May. Mr. C. T. Blackall, an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, visited the properties on the 21st January. The properties numbered 1 and 2 were excluded from the Compulsory Purchase Order but were included in the Clearance Order.

Grange View Clearance Order

Mr. C. T. Blackhall conducted an inquiry on the 21st January and inspected the properties on the same day. The Order was subsequently confirmed without modification on the 3rd March.

Hobson Street Compulsory Purchase Order

Mr. S. G. Bulstrode, an Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, conducted an inquiry on the 29th September and inspected the properties on the same day. The Order was subsequently confirmed without modification on the 29th October.

COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS AND CLEARANCE ORDERS, 1956/59.—TABLE I

Date of Representation	Compulsory Purchase Orders and Clearance Orders	Type of Premises to be Demolished							Date of Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inquiry	Date of Confirmation of Order	Properties excluded as a result of Inquiry	Position as at 31st December, 1959						
		Acres	Houses	Combined Houses and Shops	Other Premises	Total Premises	Population	No. of Families				Houses Vacated or empty	By Corporation	Persons Rehoused By Own Arrangements	Total No. of Persons awaiting re-housing	Houses Demolished	Total No. of Houses awaiting Demolition	
2-5-56	Littlemoor C.P.O. Nos. 1 & 2	9.779	441	14	42	497	1169	457	—	30-4-57	9-7-57	2	223	519	70	580	74	381
2-10-57	Do. Nos. 3-18	15.601	2	—	—	2	26	9	—	—	24-9-57	—	2	21	5	—	2	—
31-12-57	Edward St. C.A.	.792	7	—	—	7	17	7	—	—	4-3-58	—	7	12	5	—	7	—
31-12-57	West End St. C.A.	.138	6	1	—	7	6	4	—	7-10-58	21-11-58	—	7	6	—	—	7	—
31-12-57	Bridges Yard C.A.	.184	24	—	—	24	58	20	—	—	9-9-58	—	24	55	3	—	21	3
31-12-57	Taylor St. C.A.	.507	90	2	—	92	206	91	—	7-10-58	9-9-58	3	89	179	23	4	—	92
31-12-57	Wallshaw St. C.A.	1.607	30	1	—	31	86	36	—	—	11-12-58	—	31	60	26	—	31	—
7-5-58	Armitage St. C.A.	.468	16	—	—	16	34	16	—	21-1-59	30-12-58	—	16	25	9	—	8	8
7-5-58	Grange View C.A.	.349	14	—	—	14	32	13	—	—	3-3-59	—	7	17	—	15	14	14
7-5-58	Lees Square C.A.	.334	16	—	—	16	40	16	—	—	30-12-58	9	16	40	—	—	16	—
7-5-58	Greenacres Rd. C.A.	.405	6	—	—	6	18	10	—	—	12-1-59	—	6	6	—	—	1	5
7-5-58	Wright St. C.A.	.145	11	—	—	11	32	11	—	—	30-12-58	—	11	27	5	—	2	—
7-5-58	Derker St. C.P.O.	.542	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8-5-59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7-5-58	Hollinwood C.P.O.	—	54	1	3	58	131	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-3-59	Do. No. 1	2.345	5	—	2	7	14	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-3-59	Do. No. 2	1.434	3	—	—	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-3-59	Do. No. 3	2.034	78	1	3	82	184	80	—	29-9-59	29-10-59	—	29	60	—	124	—	79
8-7-59	Hobson St. C.P.O.	1.611	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Voluntary Demolitions

Information was received with regard to the demolition of 7 houses by voluntary action, all of which were included in the slum clearance programme.

Improvement Grants

The existing Discretionary Grant, under which up to half the estimated cost of improvements to a dwelling house may be paid at the discretion of a local authority, subject to a maximum of £400, has now been supplemented by the Standard Grant in accordance with the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959. This Standard Grant is available as a right to all house owners, for the purpose of installing all or any of the five basic amenities, ie., bath, wash hand basin, water closet, hot water system and foodstore, subject to the maximum of £155 and the house being then fit for habitation and having a life of at least 15 years.

During the year 277 applications were submitted to the Housing Committee and 230 were granted, of these 216 were from owner occupiers of property. The grants made totalled £20,398. All applications were vetted by this Department as to the suitability or otherwise of the premises.

Since the inception of the improvement grants scheme in March, 1955, 603 grants have been made with a total expenditure of £66,765 1s. 0d.

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 54/55

This circular recommends that local authorities should issue a general reminder to the public through the press advising anyone intending to purchase older type properties to enquire at the Council's offices to ascertain whether such properties were affected by the Slum Clearance Programme.

Publicity was given to this circular, although this information was already being given to the public on enquiry. During the year 906 such enquiries were dealt with.

Overcrowding

There were 10 new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.

Rent Act, 1957

During the year 80 applications were received from tenants for certificates of disrepair. These were dealt with as follows:—

Certificates recommended	79
Withdrawn	1

There were 19 applications for cancellation of certificates of disrepair, which were dealt with as follows:—

Recommended for cancellation	18
Deferred	1

There were 4 applications for certificates as to the remedying of defects which landlord has undertaken to remedy. These were dealt with as follows:—

Certificates recommended	2
Not recommended	2

Eradication of Bed Bugs

The following figures show the number of houses inspected and the number disinfested:—

	Corporation	Others
Houses inspected	339	123
Found infested	17	2
Disinfested by H.C.N.	—	—
Disinfested by spraying with liquid insecticide	14	319

Removals and Disinfestation of Furniture

A Bedford 30 cwt. disinfecting van is used for the disinfestation of furniture of families who are moving into Corporation houses and during the year furniture of 210 families was disinfested prior to removal to Corporation houses.

Disinfection

The arrangements for disinfection and destruction of articles, clothing and bedding continued as in the previous year. The total number of houses disinfected was 237 with a total of 1,148 rooms.

Housing Applications Register

I am indebted to Mr. T. W. Pickering, Housing Manager, for the following information:—

“On the 31st December there were 2,156 applications for housing accommodation on the Housing Applications Register. This figure includes 377 applications for aged persons’ bungalows.”

SECTION VIII

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS

MILK SUPPLY

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, is operative with regard to Oldham and requires that only designated milk should be supplied within the area. The special designations which may now be used in relation to milk are:—

“Pasteurised” “Sterilised” “Tuberculin Tested”

Milk Production in the Borough

From information received from the Agricultural Executive Committee 24 farms out of a total of 36 within the Borough now have “Tuberculin Tested” licences, 18 have licences for the sale of wholesale and retail milk and 6 for the sale of wholesale milk only. The remaining farms are required to dispose of their milk to pasteurising plants in accordance with The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953.

The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations came into operation on the 8th March, and re-enact with amendments The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954. The new provisions further control personal cleanliness and the prevention of the risk of contamination or infection of milk. In addition the registration of distributors is now required to be effected only with the local authority in whose area the premises from which the milk is distributed are situated.

At the beginning of the year there were 18 distributors producing milk in the Borough and 20 distributor producers outside the Borough.

During the year 25 new distributors were registered for the sale of bottled milk.

On the 31st December there were 7 premises registered as dairies and 671 registered distributors of milk, comprised as follows:—

Number of distributors producing milk in the Borough	18
Number of distributors with dairy premises in the Borough	7
Number of other distributors	25
Number of shops at which bottled milk is sold	621

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were in force on the 31st December:—

(a) To use the designation “Tuberculin Tested”

*Producer's Licence	18
Dealer's Licence	36

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

The following licences were in force on the 31st December:—

(a) To use the designation "Pasteurised"

Dealer's (Pasteuriser's) Licence	1
Dealer's Licence	108

(b) To use the designation "Sterilised"

Dealer's (Steriliser's) Licence	—
Dealer's Licence	662

* These licences are granted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Examination of Milk (Samples) for Tubercle Bacilli

There were no samples of milk taken for examination during the year for the presence of tubercle bacilli.

Milk Samples Taken for Methylene Blue Test

There were 112 samples taken with the following results:—

Class of Milk Sample	No. of Samples Taken	Methylene Blue Test	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	76	76	—
T.T. Pasteurised	36	36	—
Totals	112	112	—

Milk Samples Taken for Phosphatase Test

Regular samples are taken of pasteurised milk which comes into the Borough and of milk which is pasteurised in the Borough.

Samples of the milk supplied under the Milk in Schools Scheme are taken monthly.

The following table details the samples taken:—

Class of Milk Sample	No. of Samples Taken	Phosphatase Test	
		Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	76	76	—
T.T. Pasteurised	36	36	—
Totals	112	112	—

Milk Samples for Turbidity Test

No samples of sterilised milk were submitted during the year.

ICE CREAM

During the year the control over the manufacture and sale of ice cream was maintained and 61 visits were made to registered premises.

On the 31st December, there were 449 premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale, manufacture or storage of ice cream. The following table gives details of the premises registered:—

(a) For the manufacture and sale of ice cream	4
(b) For sale of pre-packed ice cream	440
(c) For sale of loose and pre-packed ice cream ...	5

In the previous year 408 premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream and 5 for the sale of loose and pre-packed ice cream.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1959

The above Regulations were made during the year to consolidate and amend the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952. The amendments include the exemption from the heat treatment provisions of water ices and ice lollies having a pH value of 4.5 or less, and the recognition of a prescribed sterilization process as an alternative to pasteurisation.

There are 4 ice cream manufacturers in the Borough. All the firms have complied with the requirements of the regulations and are fully alive to the importance of producing a product which is prepared and stored under strictly hygienic conditions.

Bacteriological Examination

There is no statutory bacteriological standard of cleanliness for ice cream but a methylene blue test has been adapted for ice cream and the result is classified in one of 4 grades.

There were 12 samples of ice cream submitted for the methylene blue grading test with the following results:—

Grade I	10
Grade II	1
Grade III	1
Grade IV	—

In the case of the Grade III sample, the attention of the manufacturers was drawn to the result of the test, and subsequent samples from this firm were reported satisfactory.

Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959

These Regulations came into operation on the 27th April, in replacement of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953, and prescribe amended standards with regard to the content of fat, milk fat and milk solids other than fat, as the case may be, in regard to ice cream, dairy ice cream, ice cream containing fruit, milk ice, and kosher ice. The sugar standard is now withdrawn and replaced by the regulation that artificial sweeteners shall not be used.

During the year 9 samples of ice cream were taken for analysis and all were reported to be satisfactory.

LIQUID EGG PASTEURISATION PLANT

As a result of arrangements made in 1958, with the firm of S. Z. Wick and Sons Limited, an A.P.V. Paraflow Liquid Egg Pasteuriser was installed at their factory in Falcon Street. The pasteuriser has all the auxiliary equipment including control panel with temperature recording instruments and diversion device together with cooling sections and heat exchanger.

This firm has been receiving under the supervision of this Department, consignments of salmonella contaminated egg from various Port Health Authorities. Regular sampling of the unpasteurised egg and the pasteurised egg during the year revealed that the pasteurising process is killing organisms of the salmonella group.

Some 225 samples of egg were taken during the year and thanks are due to the staff of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Monsall Hospital in this connection. The resultant product was used by a large multiple bakery and they have informed the Department that there is no impairment in the quality of their products as a result of using pasteurised egg.

Sampling undertaken during the year is as follows:—

	Raw Egg			Pasteurised Egg		
	No. of Samples Taken	Number Reported 'Salm. Spores Grown'	No. of Samples Reported Negative	No. of Samples Taken	Number Reported 'Salm. Spores Grown'	No. of Samples Reported Negative
Australian Frozen Whole Egg	14	12	2	48	—	48
Chinese Frozen Whole Egg	14	8	6	61	—	61
English Liquid Whole Egg	10	6	4	45	—	45
Canadian Liquid Whole Egg	2	1	1	8	—	8
Dutch Shell Eggs	10	—	10	—	—	—
Polish Shell Eggs	9	—	9	—	—	—
Polish Liquid Eggs	—	—	—	4	—	4

MEAT INSPECTION

Slaughterhouses

There are no private slaughterhouses in the Borough, but there are two public slaughterhouses under the control of the Markets and Baths Committee; one is leased to the local Co-operative Society and the other to a private firm. Facilities are available at both these slaughterhouses for butchers to have their own animals slaughtered.

During the year the Co-operative Society purchased lamb and beef "off the hook" and the Foundry Street Slaughterhouse was used by the Society for the slaughter of pigs.

The following table shows the number of animals killed and inspected during the year with the results of inspection:—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed (if known) ...	1,152	641	21	15,814	2,137	19,765
Number inspected	1,152	641	21	15,814	2,137	19,765
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole Carcases condemned	...	2	1	19	...	22
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	426	299	...	155	141	1,021
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis and Cysticerci ...	36.98%	46.95%	4.762%	1.100%	6.598%	...
Tuberculosis only						
Whole Carcases condemned	...	...	...	...	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	72	89	...	...	11	172
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.250%	13.89%	...	...	.562%	...
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	...	...	...	...	2
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...

The following figures show the percentage of cows affected with Tuberculosis for the years 1953 to 1959:—

	Cow Carcases Examined	Percentage affected with Tuberculosis
1953	4,024	32.50
1954	2,647	27.37
1955	2,289	24.79
1956	1,058	19.47
1957	933	8.14
1958	807	11.58
1959	641	13.89

The total weight of meat and offal destroyed was:—

For tuberculosis	4,021 lbs.
For diseases other than tuberculosis	16,727 lbs.

**Summary of Diseased and Unsound Food
Destroyed During 1959**

	lbs.
Cattle (2 whole carcasses)	911
(1,312 part carcasses)	17,016
Sheep (19 whole carcasses)	490
(155 part carcasses)	1,095
Pigs (1 whole carcass)	228
(152 part carcasses)	958
Calves (1 whole carcass)	50
(part carcasses)	—
Preserved food	6,124
Sausages	206
Butter	5
Cooked meats	421
Cake	46
Cheese	14
Lamb	39
Flour	1,051
Cream	27
Chocolate	6
Sugar	74
Bacon	250
125 bottles of cod liver oil	32
Poultry	322
Flavoured Dessert	12
Ground nuts	2
Fruit	4,452
Dried fruit	69
Jellied strawberries	4½
Ox tongue	1
Fish	42
Chinese Pasteurised Egg	44
Total	33,991½lbs.

Tuberculosis in Pigs

During the year a young sow received at the slaughterhouse was found to be extensively affected with tuberculosis and it was considered necessary to inform the appropriate Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to investigate and advise of the place of origin.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954

There were 11 renewal licences granted during the year.

Horseflesh

There are two shops in the Borough for the sale of horseflesh, The animals are slaughtered and inspected outside the Borough.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Food Hygiene

The inspection and supervision of food preparation premises was continued and 1,919 visits were paid to these premises during the year. The following improvements were effected:—

Structural defects remedied	22
Sanitary accommodation improved	45
Wash hand basins or sinks provided	17
Improved lighting and ventilation	18
Additional food storage accommodation provided...	17
Hot water provided	18
Other conditions remedied	75

Contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955—

Sections 6, 16, 23 and 24

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of a cafe for contraventions of the above. The defendant was fined a total of £32 0s. 0d. plus £7 7s. 0d. advocate's fee.

Contravention of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2

Legal proceedings were instituted against a bakery firm for contraventions of the above. The defendants were fined £5 5s. 0d. plus £3 3s. 0d. advocate's fee and £8 17s. 6d. costs.

Contamination of Food

A complaint of an insect being found in a tin of carrots was received. The product was manufactured by a firm outside the Borough who stated that in their opinion the insect entered the can after the purchaser had opened it. This firm maintains a high standard of hygiene on the premises and no further action was taken.

A complaint of cakes affected with mould and purchased from a shop within the Borough was received. Investigations revealed that the cakes were stale and unfit for human consumption when exposed for sale. A severe letter of warning was issued.

A complaint of a quantity of foreign matter being found in a bottle of mineral water was received. The mineral water was manufactured by a firm outside the Borough who stated that the bottles were examined four times during the cleaning and filling processes and all possible precautions were taken to avoid such occurrences. A letter of warning was issued.

A further complaint of decomposed insects being found in a bottle of mineral water was received. The mineral water was manufactured by another firm outside the Borough. Their representatives expressed concern at the incident and stated that every precaution was taken to prevent complaints of this nature. A letter of warning was issued.

A complaint of malt bread contaminated by mould growth was received. The bread was manufactured by a bakery firm outside the Borough and the matter was referred to the Chief Public Health Inspector of the District. He stated that the firm were very progressive in their outlook and that every effort was made, including research to avoid complaints of this kind. A further complaint of a quantity of foreign matter being found in bread and manufactured by the same firm was received. The firm's manager stated that a small piece of string had passed through the sieves. He expressed his regret and made an assurance that every effort would be made to prevent a recurrence of this complaint. No further action was taken in these cases.

Report of the Public Analyst

Mr. T. W. Lovett, Borough Analyst, died suddenly in July. Mr. Lovett had held this appointment since 1954 and was succeeded by Mr. G. H. Baker, the Deputy Borough Analyst.

Mr. G. H. Baker, F.R.I.C., has kindly furnished the following report:—

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

“During the year ending 31st December, 1959, 391 samples were analysed, these consisted of 232 Milks; 19 Medicinal Remedies; 9 Ice Creams; 7 Butters; 5 Pickles; 5 Margarines; 5 Biscuits/Cakes; 5 Tinned Vegetables; 4 Jams, Jellies and Curds; 4 Tinned Fruits; 4 Tinned Fish; 3 Self Raising Flour; 3 Plain Flour; 3 Coffee; 3 Cream; 3 Chocolates; two each of Jellies, Pork Sausage, Coconut, Sauce, Creamed Rice Pudding, Pic-nic Mustard, Buttered Muffins, Soft Drinks, Lard, Malt Vinegar, Chewing Gum, Cheese Spread and Beer, and one each of the following:—Black Pepper, Salmon Spread, Minced Chicken in Jelly, Instant Whip, Ground Nutmeg, Sage, Bread with part of Rodent, Minced Turkey in Jelly, Pork Pie, Ground Mixed Nuts, Potted Salmon, White Pepper, Chicken Fillets, Custard Powder, Chicksnak, 2 slices Buttered Bread, Teacakes, Stewed Steak, Rice, Barley, Tapioca, Tinned Sausage, Fresh Fruit Pudding,

Peanut Butter, Smoked Ham, Mincemeat, Tinned Chicken, Tomato Paste, Meat Loaf, Pork Roll with Stuffing, Dripping, Christmas Pudding, Luncheon Meat, Trifle, Marzipan, Golden Syrup, Gelatine, Steak and Kidney Pie, Bisto, Bovril, Scotch Whisky, Gunga Peas, Scotts Porridge Oats, Black Pudding, Savoury Duck, Beef Goulash, Begos Pork, Parsley Sauce Mixture, Ground Ginger, Rum Flavouring and Liquid Egg.

All samples were taken informally, with the following exceptions, 228 Milks and 9 Ice Creams.

Fourteen samples were reported as unsatisfactory or not up to standard as follows:—Ten Milks; One Buttered Muffin; Two Bread and One Teacake.

The presumptive minimum of fat content established by the Sale of Milk Regulation, 1939, for genuine milk is 3.0 per cent and ten samples failed to reach this standard. One Buttered Muffin was found to be spread with Margarine and not Butter, a further sample was in fact spread with Butter. One sample of Bread was contaminated with mould growth (*Aspergillus Niger*), the other sample contained part of a rodent, examination showed this to be either a mouse or rat. The Teacake was contaminated with a mixture of Oil and Iron compounds, this type of contamination is often found to be derived from the bearings of machinery.

The following table shows the relative milk-fat content of the samples:—

2.0 to 2.5	2 Samples
2.51 to 2.75	1 Sample
2.76 to 3.0	7 Samples
3.01 to 3.25	8 Samples
3.26 to 3.5	39 Samples
3.51 to 3.75	80 Samples
3.76 to 4.0	50 Samples
Over 4.0	45 Samples
	<hr/>
	232 Samples
	<hr/>

All the samples of milk were free from preservative and colouring matter.

All the samples of Drugs and Medicines were in agreement with either the British Pharmacopoeia or The British Pharmaceutical Codex, or with the labels on the containers.

All the other samples were satisfactory and call for no special comment.

The year 1959, saw the coming into operation of several new Statutory Instruments, these included:—The Arsenic in Food Regulations, 1959; The Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Regulations, 1959; and the Fluorine in Food Regulations, 1959. The Arsenic in Food Regulations enforces the recom-

mended limits for Arsenic in Food that have been in use for many years. The Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Regulations replaces the previous Order of 1953, and further differentiates between Ice Cream and Dairy Ice Cream. All the fat present in Dairy Ice Cream must be derived from milk, whereas in Ice Cream, other fats can be present either in part or whole. The use of Artificial Sweeteners in Ice Cream is also prohibited. The Fluorine in Food Regulations replaces the previous Order of 1947, and reduces the limit for the maximum Fluorine Content of certain foods, i.e., Self Raising Flour and Baking Powder.

The whole question of Preservatives in Food is the subject of a new Report by the Food Standards Committee and it appears very probable that certain changes will be made in the near future.

In conclusion I must add that for the first three quarters of 1959, the work was carried out under the direction of your late Public Analyst, Mr. T. W. Lovett, F.R.I.C., or the Deputy Public Analyst, Mr. G. Sherratt, F.R.I.C. In the death of Mr. Lovett, the Profession of Analytical Chemistry has lost an esteemed and valued member."

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The total number of samples analysed during 1959 was 391, compared with 400 for 1958.

Number of Samples Purchased for Analysis

Articles	Number of Samples of each article examined			Number of Samples of each article regarded as Adulterated, below standard, or otherwise not complying with prescribed requirements		
	Form-ally Taken	Inform-ally Taken	Total	Form-ally Taken	Inform-ally Taken	Total
Milk	228	4	232	6*	4	10
Butter, Margarine and Lard	—	16	16	—	—	—
Medicaments & Ointment	—	19	19	—	—	—
Sauces & Pickles	—	8	8	—	—	—
Ice Cream	9	—	9	—	—	—
Sweetmeats	—	5	5	—	—	—
Seasonings & Spices	—	8	8	—	—	—
Tinned Fruit	—	4	4	—	—	—
Flour	—	6	6	—	—	—
Potted Chicken & Turkey	—	5	5	—	—	—
Puddings	—	4	4	—	—	—
Fish & Fish Paste	—	6	6	—	—	—
Luncheon Meats	—	3	3	—	—	—
Coconut & Nuts	—	3	3	—	—	—
Tinned Vegetables	—	6	6	—	—	—
Cream	—	4	4	—	—	—
Jams & Preserves	—	5	5	—	—	—
Coffee	—	3	3	—	—	—
Cheese	—	2	2	—	—	—
Buttered Muffin	—	2	2	—	1	1
Syrup	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cereals	—	4	4	—	—	—
Jelly	—	3	3	—	—	—
Custard Powders & Trifle Mix	—	2	2	—	—	—
Beef Goulash	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausage	—	2	2	—	—	—
Contaminated Bread	—	3	3	—	3	3
Biscuits & Cake	—	4	4	—	—	—
Meat Pies	—	2	2	—	—	—
Malt Vinegar	—	2	2	—	—	—
Beer & Stout	—	2	2	—	—	—
Fruit Drink	—	2	2	—	—	—
Smoked Ham	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rusks	—	1	1	—	—	—
Hot Dogs	—	1	1	—	—	—
Begos Pork	—	1	1	—	—	—
Savoury Duck	—	1	1	—	—	—
Black Pudding	—	1	1	—	—	—
Marzipan	—	1	1	—	—	—
Whisky	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bovril	—	1	1	—	—	—
Liquid Egg	—	1	1	—	1	1
Tomato Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Stewed Steak	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bisto	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals	237	154	391	6	9	15

* These samples were deficient in milk fat and were obtained from two dairy farmers with tuberculin tested herds. "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken and deficiencies were found to be of a physical nature. The farmers were therefore requested to seek the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture Advisory Service.

MISCELLANEOUS

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

The Welfare Services Committee exercises all the powers and duties of the Council under the National Assistance Act, 1948, with the exception of the powers and duties under Section 47 which by agreement have been transferred to the Health Committee.

The Health Committee has delegated all the powers of the Local Authority under this Section to a Special Sub-Committee.

The compulsory removal of a person to hospital or other accommodation is only undertaken as a last resort and when every avenue of approach has failed.

Action under the Amendment Act was taken in the following case:—

Case No. 1/59 (W.B.): A male aged 79 years lived alone in deplorably filthy conditions, and was the cause of bitter complaints by the neighbours. Officers of the department and of the Welfare Services Department made repeated visits to persuade him to enter hostel accommodation. He adamantly refused all offers of help including the cleansing of his home and often obstructed the officers by refusing them access.

His physical condition gradually deteriorated and finally he was found lying helpless on the floor by the police. He was again asked to enter a welfare hostel and retorted that he would "rather commit suicide." In view of the conditions and his inability to look after himself, an Order was obtained and he was removed to the Westlands Hostel. Three days later he suddenly collapsed and died.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Handicapped Persons

The powers and duties of the Welfare Services Committee include the welfare of persons who are blind, deaf and dumb, or who are substantially or permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity. The Director of Welfare Services is the Chief Officer to the Committee.

Incidence of Blindness

The Director of Welfare Services arranges for the examination of adults suspected to be suffering from blindness and he receives Form B.D.8 from the examining Ophthalmic Surgeon. By arrangement with him a copy of the form is forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health when the patient is admitted to the Register of Blind Persons.

In the case of children of school age, the Principal School Medical Officer arranges the examination which is undertaken by the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon (Mr. J. McLenachan).

During the year 39 persons (14 males, 25 females) were admitted to the Register of Blind Persons.

The following table gives the age and sex distribution and the causes of blindness in these cases:—

	AGE GROUPS												
	0-1	1-4	5-15	16-20	21-30	31-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80+	Total
	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F
Cataract ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- 1	2 5	4 4	6 10
Glaucoma ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	2 2	- 4	3 6
Others	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	2 -	- 3	2 4	- 2	5 9
TOTAL ...	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 -	- -	2 -	1 4	6 11	4 10	14 25

Degree of Blindness

1. No perception of light Nil
2. Perception of light 7 cases
3. Vision up to and including 3/60 Snellen 26 cases
4. Better than 3/60 Snellen 6 cases

Ministry of Health Circular 1/54 requested Medical Officers of Health to include in their Annual Reports a section relating to blind persons and accordingly the following information is submitted for the 39 cases for whom Form B.D.8 has been received:—

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons

Treatment Recommended on Form B.D.8.	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Senile Macular Degener/n.	Others
None	3	2	2	3
Medical	1	—	—	—
Surgical	4	—	—	1
Optical	2	1	—	2
Hospital Supervision	6	6	—	6
Totals ...	16	9	2	12

Cataract—There were 16 persons admitted to the register and 9 had previously received consultant advice: 7 had not received consultant advice. In one case operation was considered inadvisable on general grounds, a male aged 79 years who was bedfast and had an operation for carcinoma prostate five years ago.

With regard to the remaining 15 cases, the following recommendations were made:—

- Further surgical treatment 4
- To remain under hospital supervision 8
- No treatment recommended 3

Glaucoma—Nine persons were admitted to the register and each had previously received consultant advice. Of these, 6 were recommended to continue hospital supervision another was to have optical aids fitted and no treatment was advised in 2 cases.

Senile Macular Degeneration—Two cases were admitted to the register, only one had received consultant advice but treatment was not recommended in either case.

Others—There were 12 cases admitted to the register, all had received consultant advice, except 2 cases, one a female of 86 who was recommended for optical treatment and the other a female of 67 who refused the opportunity of treatment.

Myopia	6	Diabetic retinopathy ...	1
Retinal detachment	1	Disseminated choroiditis	1
Corneal scarring	2	Ocular pemphigus	1

At the 31st of December, there were 313 cases on the Register of Blind Persons (137 males, 176 females).

Ophthalmia Neonatorum: There were 9 cases notified during the year and in no case was vision lost or impaired.

The following table shows the cases notified and results of treatment:—

B. Ophthalmia Neonatorum

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	9
(ii) Number of cases in which:	
(a) Vision lost	None
(b) Vision impaired	„
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	„

Partially Sighted

There were 8 persons admitted to the Register of Partially Sighted Persons; these were, four females aged 59, 77, 79 and 89 and four males aged 81, 51, 63 and 77 years.

The following table gives the age, sex distribution and causes of partial sightedness:—

	A G E G R O U P S													
	40-49		50-59		60-64		65-69		70-79		80+		Total:	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Myopic Macular Degeneration	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Cataract	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Burns and Corneal Scarring	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-
Corneal Degeneration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Myopia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS:	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	4	4

At the 31st December there were 56 persons on the Register of Partially Sighted Persons (24 males and 32 females).

Spastics

Ascertainment commences with the health visitor, the child welfare centre or the Consultant Paediatrician. Cases are discussed with the Consultant Paediatrician to the Oldham Hospital Group at the regular conference which he holds with the staff of the Health Department. The general practitioner is advised with regard to any special development or treatment.

The Education Committee provides special schooling and, if necessary, home teaching till the spastic reaches school leaving age.

Two spastics (1 boy, 1 girl), both attending special schools, were notified to the Director of Welfare Services after leaving school. The boy was also partially sighted and attended the Waterhead Partially Sighted School and continued a course of typewriting with a view to employment. The girl who attended the Scottfield Physically Handicapped School was found employment with a firm of mop manufacturers.

One boy attending Singleton Hall Special Residential School, Poulton-le-Fylde, was discharged at the end of the year to await entry into a training college for disabled persons.

The Oldham and District Spastics' Society provide a day centre for spastics at 'Heathbank,' Windsor Road. They receive children from Oldham and the adjacent districts and also cater for a few adults. At the end of the year there were 6 children and 3 adults resident in the Borough attending the Centre.

Epileptics

There is complete co-ordination with the diagnostic and treatment services for school children and adult epileptics who are brought to the notice of the Consultant Psychiatrist.

No cases were ascertained as requiring admission to special residential schools during the year.

Homes for Aged Persons

I am indebted to the Director of Welfare Services (Mr. W. Hutchinson) for the details contained in the following report:—

The following accommodation was available in Residential Homes during the year:—

Name of Home	Opened	Accommodation Provided	Category
Greenacres Lodge, Greenacres Road	30-8-48	36 women	Aged persons
"Westlands," Grange Avenue	14-12-48	31 men and women	Aged persons
"The Hollies," Frederick Street	10-10-49	30 men	Aged persons
Stamford House, Lees New Road	28-11-49	15 women	Aged persons
Wellington Lodge, Wellington Road	11-3-53	18 women	Aged persons
Moorfield, Greenacres Road	24-1-55	16 men	Aged persons
Ashleigh, Newport Street	17-2-55	20 women	Aged persons
Edward House, Edward Street	24-4-52	24 men and women	Blind persons
"Lyndhurst," Queens Road	14-8-52	14 men and women	Deaf persons
"Toravon," Newport Street	30-6-55	27 men and women	Handicapped persons
"Greylands," Rhos-on-Sea	16-6-55	20 men and women	All categories
"Limecroft," Whitebank Road	22-1-57	42 men and women	Aged persons
"Glenthorne," Queens Road	4-12-57	26 men and women	Aged persons
Napier House, Windsor Road	24-11-52	Temporary accommodation for persons rendered homeless on account of fire, flood, &c.	

At the end of the year accommodation was available in Homes for 254 aged, 24 blind, 14 deaf and 27 handicapped persons.

Cancer Education

A scheme of research by the Manchester Committee on Cancer approved by the Health Committee in 1951 and commenced in 1952, was continued for the eighth year. The authority made a contribution of £223 to the Manchester Committee on Cancer for the current financial year.

The following report of Mr. John Wakefield, B.A., Executive Officer of the Committee, again shows a very satisfactory result of the work undertaken during the year:—

“I am pleased to report that the day-to-day work of the Manchester Committee on Cancer in Oldham was maintained during 1959, when sixteen societies took advantage of our offer to supply expert speakers free of charge; and once again I am indebted to the editor of the ‘Oldham Chronicle’, who continues to allow generous space for reports of these meetings.

Despite the satisfying publicity our activities receive, however, there remains about 90 per cent of the population who belong to no club or society, and who consequently never hear a talk by one of our speakers. If informing the public of the need for early treatment of curable cancers is a matter of urgency—and we believe it is—then no programme can claim to be complete until it caters for the whole population. During the year we made the first moves in a threefold plan to bring information to everyone in Oldham.

Helped by a generous grant from the Margaret Tod Research Fund, we held in March an exploratory conference at Lyme Hall to see whether schoolteachers would be able, and willing, to include in the normal course of teaching the sort of basic information older children will need if they are to be proof against the fears, prejudices and old wives’ tales about cancer they will inevitably hear from adults. Five teachers from Oldham secondary and grammar schools were among the fifty-one who attended. The delegates received our proposals enthusiastically and agreed unanimously to extend existing biology, physics and hygiene syllabi to include appropriate information. The American biology-teaching film ‘From One Cell’, shown at the conference, is available on free loan to any teacher in Oldham who cares to ask me for it. A Teachers’ Manual, asked for at the conference, is now being prepared and will be in the hands of Oldham schoolteachers as soon as possible. Reports from teachers who have already begun lessons along the lines suggested agree that, done with proper caution, they arouse great interest of an entirely healthy kind, quite unlike the emotional and somewhat introspective interest of adults. I am convinced that this is an opportunity to ensure that the coming generation in Oldham will reach maturity free of the paralysing fears about cancer which are themselves responsible for the needless deaths of so many adults today.

Many people saw the large, eye-catching display which, through the good offices of Dr. Chalmers Keddie and the Gas Board, was erected in the Gas Showrooms in August. We make no hire charge for this display, and I will gladly arrange for it to be shown again at any suitable place in Oldham.

Although the display may help people who, apart from reading reports of our meetings in the ‘Oldham Chronicle’, have no access to reliable information about cancer, it is no substitute for the free flow of question and answer which we adopt at our meetings. Through the generosity of Rotary 105 District, which includes the Oldham Club, we hope soon to be able to fill this gap in our campaign by bringing information to people

at their place of work. Rotarians have offered to buy and equip a Mobile Information Unit, which will visit offices, factories and shops to show films, give short talks and distribute literature. We are extremely grateful to Rotary for making it possible for us to make this additional service available. The Mobile Unit should be ready about the middle of 1960 and, if employers respond in the way we should like them to, I hope next year to be able to report that the programme of public education about cancer has widened its scope to include all sections of the population in Oldham."

FAMILY SERVICE UNITS

OLDHAM AND DISTRICT UNIT

The service of the Family Service Units was first extended to the Oldham County Borough in 1949 for a period of 2 years. This agreement was extended from the 1st December, 1951, for a period of 5 years and for a further period of 5 years from the 1st December, 1956. Ministry approval has been received to the payment of an annual contribution of £750 which is equally divided between the Health Committee and the Childrens Committee.

The Housing Manager acts as Liaison Officer and any cases considered to be suitable for supervision by the Unit are referred to him by the head of the department concerned.

Mrs. B. Trembath is the Unit Leader for the Oldham and District Unit and I am indebted to her for the following report on the work of the Unit during the year.

"During the year 1959, F.S.U. workers have been trying to help twenty-three families in Oldham. Six of these families were referred to the Unit, in the early part of the year, 2 by health visitors, 2 by probation officers, 1 by an almoner, and 1 by a family service unit in another town from which the family transferred to Oldham.

Of these 23 families, four were needing only occasional help, five regular weekly contacts, but the remaining 14 needed more concentrated help. For some, daily, or alternate-day, visits were necessary, either by the caseworker visiting the home, or members of the family coming to the Unit centre.

Parents with large families often find themselves quite unable to cope with the responsibilities with which they have loaded themselves. A tired mother of perhaps limited intelligence finds it almost impossible to control, and provide adequately for maybe 7 or 8 children, particularly if her husband is unstable, and an erratic worker. The family will doubtless need help to get the maximum value of their limited income. Plans to repay rent arrears, or to reduce the tick-shop bill, may be frustrated by County court action by a hire-purchase firm, who still await payment for goods long since worn out. Detailed planning alone does not help the family out of these difficulties. Frequent, and regular visiting to encourage them to meet their commitments only meets with success if the right relationship exists between the family and the caseworker. It may take three or four years before this spiral of financial deterioration can be seen to be reversed,

Similarly, in helping the parents in the care and control of their children, any advice may be seen only as criticism, unless it is based on this right relationship, together with a realistic appraisal of the family's difficulties, and their potential help to themselves.

Often the parent-children relationships can be best helped by direct work with the children. This may take the form of encouraging the children to participate in unit group activities. Acceptance in these groups may lead to an easier integration into the family group, school group, and neighbourhood group. Parents see this as approval from the community, which is something so essential, yet so elusive to them. This is the end to which F.S.U. tries to help each family—the time when the community ceases to regard them as 'a problem family.' ”

OLDHAM CREMATORIUM

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Referee to the Crematorium and the Senior Assistant Medical Officer and one Assistant Medical Officer act as Deputy Medical Referee.

Dr. C. H. Adderley, Consultant Pathologist, Oldham Hospital Group, is Pathologist to the Oldham Crematorium but his services are only used should the Medical Referee require a post-mortem examination before issuing an order for cremation.

During the year, 1,038 cremations were authorised by the Medical Referee or his Deputies: these included one certificate relating to a still-birth. In 141 of these cases a certificate (Form E) had been given by the Coroner.

In four cases, the certificate of the medical attendant (Form B) could not be accepted by the Medical Referee. One case was referred to the Coroner and in each of the three other cases a fresh certificate was completed by another practitioner who had attended the deceased during the last illness. The following were the grounds for refusal:—

1. The medical practitioner signing the certificate last saw the deceased alive three weeks before death, and he was advised to inform the Coroner. The Coroner ordered a post-mortem and issued a certificate (Form E).
2. The medical practitioner signing the certificate last saw the deceased alive two months before death.
3. The medical practitioner signing the certificate last saw the deceased alive some months before death but the deceased had been under the care of his partner.
4. The medical practitioner signing the certificate last saw the deceased alive nearly ten weeks before death.

In two cases, the confirmatory medical certificate (Form C) could not be accepted by the Medical Referee and in each of these cases a fresh certificate was completed, one by the Medical Referee and the other by his Deputy. The following were the grounds for refusal:—

1. The medical practitioner signing the certificate, although holding a recognised medical qualification of a Commonwealth University for more than five years and on the Medical Register, was not a "registered medical practitioner of not less than five years' standing."
2. The medical practitioner signing the certificate had some responsibility for the case.

In two cases, the confirmatory medical certificate was signed by a medical practitioner who had some responsibility for the case. These cases occurred in hospital and the Medical Referee contacted the medical practitioners concerned and drew their attention to the advice of the British Medical Association and the Home Office.

In one case, the application for cremation (Form A) was completed by a person who was neither a relative nor executor of the deceased and was not accepted. It was subsequently arranged for an executor to complete a fresh application form.

Of the 1,038 deceased persons, 522 were Oldham residents and 516 resident outside the Borough.

SUPERANNUATION AND OTHER MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Corporation Employees

During the year the medical staff of the department undertook medical examinations as follows:—

Department	Superannuation			Total
	Entrants	Disability	Special	
Baths and Wash-houses	—	—	—	—
Borough Engineer & Surveyor's	51	—	—	51
Borough Treasurer's	5	—	1	6
Children's	24	—	—	24
Civil Defence	2	—	—	2
Cleansing and Transport	35	1	1	37
Education	21	—	—	21
Fire Service	1	—	—	1
Housing	7	—	—	7
Libraries	7	—	—	7
Magistrates Clerk's	—	—	—	—
Markets	1	—	—	1
Parks and Cemeteries	29	1	11	41
Passenger Transport	115	10	24	149
Police	4	—	—	4
Probation	—	—	—	—
Public Health	75	—	7	82
Registrar's	—	—	—	—
Sewage	1	—	1	2
Street Lighting	4	—	—	4
Town Clerk's	1	—	—	1
Town Hall	1	—	—	1
Waterworks	17	2	2	21
Weights and Measures	—	—	—	—
Welfare Services	11	—	—	11
Works Department	33	—	5	38
	445	14	52	511

Teachers entering the service of the Council from other authorities and new entrants to the teaching profession who have not been medically examined on completion of their course of training are examined as to their fitness for employment. These examinations are undertaken by the medical officers of the department and during the year 100 teachers were examined. These figures include 48 examinations (23 females, 25 males) for which Form 28RQ was completed and forwarded to the Ministry of Education,

Other Examinations

Transport—Road Traffic Acts	44
Waterworks — Entrants	9
Education—Entrants (Teachers)	100
School Meals Employees	53
Health Department—Casual appointments	3
Other Authorities	6
	<hr/>
	215
	<hr/>
Number of persons referred to Consultants	20
Pathological Examinations	51

The above pathological examinations included 11 samples of blood for Widal tests and 11 samples of faeces taken from employees for the Waterworks Department.

Candidates Applying for Admission to Colleges

The medical examination of candidates applying for entry to training colleges, university departments of education and approved art schools is the responsibility of the Principal School Medical Officer and he is assisted by the Medical Officers of the department in these examinations.

During the year 96 candidates (30 males, 66 females) were examined and a report on Form 4 R.T.C. completed and forwarded to the appropriate college authority.

X-ray Examinations

(i) Films	284
(ii) Miniature Radiography	60

BOROUGH CORONER'S REPORT FOR 1959

The deaths reported to the Coroner during the year 1959 were 409 (males 243; females 166).

Of this total 40 were mental patients and mental defectives in institutions.

In 281 of the cases reported, the deaths were investigated by the Coroner but no inquests held.

There were 128 inquests held (79 males and 49 females).

Of the 128 inquests held, 59 were held with a jury.

There were 301 post-mortem examinations, in 195 of which no inquest was held. The expenses of the inquests amounted to £1,715 7s. 9d.

The verdicts returned were :—

Suicides 16 (males 12; females 4)

Accident or misadventure 75 (males 40; females 35)

Natural causes 7 (males 5; females 2)

Deaths from Industrial disease 22 (males 15; females 7)

Open verdicts 8 (males 7; females 1)

The ages of the 16 suicides were as follows :—

17 to 20 years of age	1
21 to 29 years of age	Nil
30 to 39 years of age	4
40 to 49 years of age	2
50 to 59 years of age	2
60 years and over	7

The types of suicide were :—

Gassing	11
Hanging	2
Drowning	1
Gun shot	1
Exhaust fumes from motor car	1

There were no cases adjourned under Section 20 of the Coroner's (Amendment) Act, 1926.

In 1958 there were 420 deaths reported, 133 inquests were held and the expenses were £1,623 14s. 2d.

HARRY ARMISTEAD,

Deputy Coroner,

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